Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-89-114
Thursday
15 June 1989

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-89-114 *15 June 1989*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Azcona Confirms 7-9 July Summit in Honduras *[ACAN]* 1

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

United States 'Creating Crisis' in Latin America *[Havana Radio]* 2
Quayle To Discuss Nicaragua, Panama With Arias *[Havana Radio]* 2
Div Gen Ochoa Sanchez Arrested for Corruption *[Havana TV]* 2
FAR Minister Reports U.S. Submarine Incursion *[AFP]* 2
Havana Notes Chinese Report on 'Disturbances' *[Havana Radio]* 3
Soviet Union Thanks Nation for Assistance *[Havana TV]* 3
Romanian Official Visits Central Planning Board *[Havana Radio]* 3
Div Gen Senen Casas Welcomes Internationalists *[Havana TV]* 3
Ceremony at Cacahual Mausoleum *[Havana TV]* 3
Ceremony for Graduating Internationalist Cadets *[Havana Radio]* 4
Havana TV Highlights Role of Youth Labor Army *[Havana TV]* 4
Rodriguez Receives SELA Permanent Secretary *[Havana Radio]* 5

Caribbean Affairs

CANA Worried About Radio Station's Future *[CANA]* 5
Broadcasting Union To Air Program on Suriname *[CANA]* 5
Barbados Official Says Drug Trade Hurts Tourism *[CANA]* 5

Antigua and Barbuda

Tourism, Public Sector Investment Growth Reported *[CANA]* 6

Barbados

Government Seeks Taxation Treaties With Europe *[CANA]* 8
Drivers End Strikes, Prepare To Work *[CANA]* 8
Former Health, Social Services Minister Dies *[CANA]* 8

Dominica

Prime Minister Denies Early Election Rumors *[CANA]* 9
Prime Minister Raises Ceiling on Taxable Income *[CANA]* 9

Dominican Republic

Military Leaders Meet Presidency Secretary *[Santo Domingo Radio]* 9

Grenada

Government Reaches 'Understanding' on Elections *[CANA]* 10
Blaize Defends Decision To Bar Marxist Books *[CANA]* 10
National Party Official Denies Leadership Crisis *[CANA]* 10

Haiti

Caricom, Canadian Delegations Visit *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 11
Investigating Committee Making No Progress *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 11
Former Detectives To Turn In Weapons, Cards *[L'UNION 10-12 Jun]* 12
CATH Leader Forbidden To Serve as Spokesman *[LE MATIN 10-12 Jun]* 12
Camera Films Sergeants Perpetrating Burglaries *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 12
More Fires Reported in Downtown Port-au-Prince *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 12

Jamaica

Manley To Meet U.S. Congressmen, Tour Europe *[Bonaire Radio]* 13
Nation's Exports to Region Decline *[CANA]* 13
Finance Minister Announces New Tax Measures *[CANA]* 13
2 Persons Shot in Kingston Prison Dispute *[CANA]* 14

St Lucia

Prime Minister Wants Security System Expansion *[CANA]* 14
Compton: Island Used as Drug Transshipment Point *[CANA]* 14

MEXICO

Official Visits With PRC Suspended, Canceled *[Madrid EFE]* 16
Government Sends Condolence Message to Gorbachev *[EL DIA 7 Jun]* 16
Ambassador in Venezuela To Strengthen Relations *[EL DIA 6 Jun]* 16

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

Arias, Quayle Discuss Regional Democracy *[San Jose Radio]* 17
Arias on Meeting With Quayle, Other Issues *[San Jose Radio]* 17

El Salvador

Reaction to Meetings With U.S. Vice President 18
CD Leader Makes Statement *[San Salvador TV]* 18
FDR's Ungo Holds News Conference *[San Salvador Radio]* 18
PDC's Mena Comments *[San Salvador TV]* 19
Rebel Radio on Quayle Visit *[Radio Venceremos]* 20
Reaction to Assassination of Minister Porth 21
Vice President Comments *[San Salvador TV]* 21
Porth's Widow Blames 'Extremists' *[ACAN]* 24
Rebels Report Execution of 'Death Squad Member' *[Radio Farabundo Marti]* 25
FMLN Claims 2 Army Helicopters Damaged *[Radio Venceremos]* 25

Guatemala

Cerezo Communique Supports Panamanian Opposition *[Hamburg DPA]* 25
Editorial Examines U.S. Intentions in Panama *[EL GRAFICO 13 Jun]* 26
URNG Discusses Current Political Situation *[PRENSA LIBRE 8 Jun]* 26
* Raquel Blandon Initiates Presidential Campaign *[EL GRAFICO 25 Apr]* 28
* Cerezo Says Violence Threatens Democracy *[DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA 19, 20 Apr]* 29
* Violence Makes Highways Dangerous for Tourists *[TIEMPO 19 Apr]* 31
* PRENSA LIBRE Carries Demographic Data *[24 Apr]* 32

Honduras

Presidential Candidate Flores on Quayle Meeting *[Tegucigalpa Radio]* 33
TIEMPO Hits Reaction to Salvadoran Attacks *[9 Jun]* 33

Nicaragua

Government Protests Quayle Meeting in Honduras *[ACAN]* 34
TV Analyzes Quayle Mission *[Managua TV]* 35
EEC Countries Give $30 Million in Emergency Aid *[Managua Radio]* 35
Borge Discusses Policies, Relations With FRG *[Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG 12 Jun]* 35
Opposition Union States Stand on Elections *[Managua Radio]* 36
Former Contra Hopes Soldiers Vote Against FSLN *[ACAN]* 37
Government Orders Price Freeze on 9 Staple Items *[AFP]* 38
Contra Attacks Reportedly Kill 8 Civilians *[BARRICADA 12 Jun]* 38
DGPS Seizes Weapons From Unauthorized Persons *[BARRICADA 8 Jun]* 38

Panama

Southern Command Maneuvers Termed 'Arrogant' *[CRITICA 14 Jun]* 38
Newspaper Cites U.S. 'Aggression' *[CRITICA 14 Jun]* 39
OAS Ministers Conclude Meeting on Crisis 39
Report on Meetings *[Panama City TV]* 39
ADOC Request on Political Prisoners *[Panama City TV]* 40
Meeting With Prisoners' Relatives *[Panama City TV]* 41
Recommendation for Dialogue *[Hamburg DPA]* 41
Guatemalan, Ecuadoran Statements *[Panama City TV]* 41
Mission Reportedly 'Disappointed' *[ACAN]* 42
FDP Patrols Increase on Costa Rican Border *[CRITICA 10 Jun]* 43
Noriega Adviser Notes Junta Proposal Raised *[Panama City TV]* 43
Due to 'Crisis,' Solis Palma Might Extend Term *[CRITICA 14 Jun]* 43
Opposition Legislator on Solis Palma's Trip to Cuba *[Panama City Radio]* 44
Espino Replaced in Agriculture Development Post *[CRITICA 13 Jun]* 44
Resignation Letter Published *[CRITICA 13 Jun]* 44
Noriega Attends First Lieutenant Graduation *[Panama City TV]* 45
Opposition Leaders Cheered at University *[ACAN]* 45
Colon Teachers Denied Demonstration Permit *[Panama City TV]* 45
Editorial Views 'Crisis' in Education *[PANORAMA CATOLICO 4 Jun]* 45
Comparison of Noriega Interview on Crisis 46

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

Alfonsin Considering 7 Jul Transition Date *[TELAM]* 47
Commission Rejects Postponement *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 47
Menem 'Will Not Extend' State of Siege *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 47
Pugliese on Transfer of Power, State of Siege *[DYN]* 47
Defense Minister Nominee on Policy, Problems *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 48
Sources Deny Discharge of Rebel Officers *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 49
Alejandro Diaz Appointed Future Labor Secretary *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 49
Designated Health Minister Appoints Secretary *[Buenos Aires Radio]* 49
Iraqi President Congratulates Carlos Menem *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 49

Bolivia

Official Comments on Drug Enforcement Efforts *[La Paz Radio]* 49
Coca Growers: Government, U.S. Plan Bloodshed *[PRESENCIA 12 Jun]* 50
New Group Claims Responsibility for Explosion *[Madrid EFE]* 50
Soviets Seek Honorary Consulate in Santa Cruz *[EL DIARIO 10 Jun]* 50

Brazil

Sarney Approves Draft Law on Nuclear Policy *[Brasilia Radio]* 51
Deputies Commission Briefed on Space Program *[Brasilia Radio]* 51
Collor de Mello Leads in National Poll *[O GLOBO 11 Jun]* 51

Report on Fires, Destruction in Amazon *[Rio de Janeiro TV]* 52
May Inflation Rate Reaches 16.6 Percent *[O GLOBO 13 Jun]* 52

Chile

Pinochet Seeks Popular Request for Candidacy *[Santiago Radio]* 52
Junta Approves Reforms; Plebiscite Pending *[Santiago Radio]* 52
Army Auditor General Praises Buschmann Arrest *[Santiago Radio]* 52
Government Requests Extradition *[Madrid EFE]* 53
Aylwin Responds to Reported Communist Support *[Santiago Radio]* 53

Colombia

Son of Presidency Secretary Released Unharmed *[AFP]* 53
Barco Sets 'Stiff Penalties' for Armed Groups *[Madrid EFE]* 53
ELN Declares Oil Companies 'Military Targets' *[Madrid EFE]* 54
Mejia on Threats to Oil, Coal, Gold Production *[Buenos Aires REUTER]* 55
'Mastermind' of Bombings, Kidnappings Captured *[Bogota Radio]* 55
ELN Reportedly Kidnaps Oil Engineers, Police *[AFP]* 55
Two ELN Guerrillas Killed in Cali Shoot-Out *[Bogota TV]* 56
'Green Commands' Claim Recent Attacks *[EL SIGLO 8 Jun]* 56

Peru

Envoy to Panama Recalled for 'Routine' Talks *[Lima TV]* 56
NCO's Arrested for Arms Sales to Terrorists *[Madrid EFE]* 56
Minister Reveals Details of Terrorist Activity *[EXPRESO 7 Jun]* 57
Shining Path Newspaper Building Attacked *[Madrid EFE]* 57
Shining Path Command Kills Supe Mayor *[Madrid EFE]* 58
Government Announces Minimum Salary Increase *[Lima TV]* 58

Uruguay

President Sanguinetti To Visit Portugal, France *[TELAM]* 58
Economy Minister Comments on Japanese Loan *[Montevideo Radio]* 58
New Political Group Created From Broad Front *[BUSQUEDA 1 Jun]* 59
Youth Groups To Attend North Korea Festival *[LA HORA 3 Jun]* 59

Venezuela

More on Police Strike, Student Disturbances *[AFP]* 59
197 Police Cadets Resign *[Hamburg DPA]* 60
Police Agree To Lift Strike *[Caracas TV]* 60

Azcona Confirms 7-9 July Summit in Honduras

PA1406230989 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2126 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 14 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Honduran President Jose Azcona said today that the upcoming Central American summit will be held in Honduras from 7 to 9 July.

The president said that all that is left is to decide whether the summit will be held in the port of Tela or on Roatan Island, both of which are located on the Caribbean Sea.

Azcona did not say if an invitation had already been sent to Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, who until last week had not been invited to attend the summit.

The Honduran president said that when he received U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle on Monday, they also talked about economic matters and the contras (armed Nicaraguan opposition) based in Honduran territory.

"We want the matter of the contras to be resolved this year," Azcona told ACAN-EFE following a ceremony held in Tegucigalpa to inaugurate a technological institute paid for by the Japanese Government.

At the summit to be held in Honduras, the five Central American presidents will discuss and probably approve a plan to demobilize the anti-Sandinist rebels, thus complying with the agreement reached at their meeting in San Salvador in February.

Cuba

United States 'Creating Crisis' in Latin America

FL1406180789 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] Last February, after the Central American presidents' meeting at Costa del Sol, El Salvador, a certain hope for a solution to the regional conflict appeared. That month, February 14 to be exact, the Central American presidents signed an agreement that was even termed as a coup de grace for the war.

However, in light of present day reality, this agreement looks like wet paper. Once again, the United States arrogantly and prepotently assumes the role of international gendarme, thus ruining everything. If peace in the Central American isthmus is not yet crystalized, the fundamental responsibility to find it falls on the U.S. Government. Washington talks of its concern for peace in the region, but a peace conceived according to its terms.

What is the United States really looking for? The elimination of the Sandinist revolution in Nicaragua, the end of insurgent movements in El Salvador and Guatemala, and now to kill any vestige of nationalist spirit in neighboring Panama. This is what is clearly seen from the Central American tour of the imperialist Vice President Dan Quayle. The proconsul carries in his briefcase the weapons of economic pressure and blackmail. So far, according to initial results, he has made good use of them.

The disbanding of the Nicaraguan contras, which should have started last May, has not begun. And there's more: In the past few days, hundreds of these mercenaries have returned to Nicaraguan soil from Honduras to continue their actions against military and civilian objectives. Of course, all this is known and endorsed by the United States to the point where they even contribute arms and money.

In El Salvador and Guatemala, Washington has blocked all serious negotiation between those governments and the insurgents, favoring violent options instead of taking the path of political solutions. In Panama, the likelihood of military aggression is demonstrated more strongly every time. In two words, the United States is creating a crisis of such magnitude that it would be hard for it not to result in a large-scale igniting of the entire continent.

Quayle To Discuss Nicaragua, Panama With Arias

FL1406212589 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1934 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle is in Costa Rica on a tour through four Central American countries. He said he will discuss the situations of Nicaragua and Panama with Costa Rican President Oscar Arias. Central America deserves better than Daniel Ortega and Manuel Antonio Noriega because they do not allow the advancement of the democratization process in the area, Quayle said. The U.S. vice president dared to say that he is touring Central America at a time when some governments are attempting to postpone the regional summit.

In San Salvador, mothers of people who are missing, have been assassinated, or are political prisoners pointed out that the purpose of Quayle's recent visit is to interfere and they condemned his support for the ultraright regime of Alfredo Cristiani. Trade unions expressed their regret that the U.S. Government representative has gone to El Salvador to promote the continuation of the war.

Div Gen Ochoa Sanchez Arrested for Corruption

FL1406131789 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] And now, a report from the Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] of Cuba:

Division General Arnaldo Ochoa Sanchez has been arrested and is under investigation. We find ourselves with the unpleasant duty of reporting that Div Gen Ochoa Sanchez, who has received important responsibilities and honors from the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and FAR, has been arrested and placed under investigation for serious crimes of corruption and dishonest handling of economic resources.

No matter what the merits of any comrade may be, the PCC and FAR cannot permit the impunity of anyone who, upon straying from the revolution's principles, commits grave violations of moral codes and socialist laws.

According to FAR regulations, Div Gen Ocoa will be placed at first at the disposal of an honor tribunal made up of officers equal to him in rank. This tribunal will recommend measures to be taken, including those of a legal nature which correspond to the infractions committed, against Div Gen Ochoa.

The recommendations made by this tribunal and the reasons for the recommendations will be released to the people soon afterward.

FAR Minister Reports U.S. Submarine Incursion

PA1506031289 Paris AFP in Spanish 0238 GMT 15 Jun 89

[Text] Havana, 14 Jun (AFP)—General Raul Castro, Revolutionary Armed Forces minister and first vice president of Cuba, revealed this evening that a submerged U.S. submarine approached the Cuban coast this past Sunday, 11 June, "and was forced to withdraw." Gen Castro said that the submarine came to "approximately 20 km" from the coast "in the sensitive region of Cienfuegos."

The Cuban general said that this action is part of the practice of "increased aggressions" by the United States against Cuba.

Havana Notes Chinese Report on 'Disturbances'

FL1406222089 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1955 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Chinese authorities today reported that during the disturbances of 3 and 4 June in Beijing, 100 soldiers and 100 civilians were killed while several thousand soldiers and 1000 citizens were injured.

A report from a Chinese Communist Party committee accuses illegal organizations, the Independent Workers's Association and the Independent Union of Students, of creating the recent disturbances with material support provided by foreign political forces to topple the socialist system. The report adds that those groups ordered the attack against troops responsible for reestablishing order and against the principal headquarters of the party and government, as well as other centers of strategic interest, such as radio and television stations. The statement says that members of those organizations armed themselves with knives and iron rods to initiate a general assault. The report distributed in Beijing adds that these organizations only wanted to arrest the leaders of country and take power.

Soviet Union Thanks Nation for Assistance

FL1406135689 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] The Soviet Union has expressed its gratitude to Cuba for the aid that is being given to the victims of the recent catastrophe that occurred in the Ural Mountains.

The deputy chief of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Information Administration, Vadim Perfilyev, said in a news conference that this support is even more important because it came in a time of great sadness for the Soviet people. The Cuban experts, he added, are presently working at the special burn center in Moscow. This is where some of the 619 survivors of the Bashkiria tragedy are located. Of these people, 344 are in grave condition.

Romanian Official Visits Central Planning Board

FL1406163789 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1421 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] As part of the activities of the eighth session of the Cuban-Romanian joint commission, Lina Ciobanu, deputy prime minister of the government and head of the Romanian delegation, has visited the Central Planning Board.

The distinguished visitor met with Antonio Rodriguez Maurel, vice president of the Council of Ministers and minister of planning [title as heard]. The two officials discussed subjects of common interest on the economic relations of the two countries.

Div Gen Senen Casas Welcomes Internationalists

FL1406131889 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Close to 160 combatants arrived in the fatherland last night from Angola. Once again, our combatants arrive with the satisfaction of having fulfilled with the most sacred duty of every Cuban: to be an internationalist.

At the air terminal, Division General Senen Casas Regueiro, alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo and first substitute of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] minister, welcomed this arriving group.

Division General Pascual Rodriguez and representatives of mass organizations, political organizations, as well as Ministry of the Interior and FAR officials also greeted the arriving men. Of the arriving combatants, 141 of them bear the Internationalist Combatant Medal, second class; 3 of them bear the Ignacio Agramonte Medal; 13 bear the Defense of Cuito Cuanavale Medal; and all of them have the Cuba-Angola Victory Medal.

Ceremony at Cacahual Mausoleum

FL1406183889 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Once again, the Cacahual Mausoleum was the location where the official welcoming ceremony was held for the internationalist combatants who are returning victoriously from the Peoples' Republic of Angola. The ceremony was attended by Jorge Lezcano Perez, first secretary of the party in Havana City Province, and by Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro. Another group of the fatherland's best children has paid tribute to the heroes of the nation there, at the mausoleum, where we find the remains of General Antonio Maceo and his assistant Panchito Gomez Toro, as well as those of Blas A. Roca Calderio, the teacher of communists.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] Comrades, on a day like today, we also join your most beloved in the happiness they share upon your return to the fatherland after you completed your duty. What happiness for your mothers, relatives, friends, comrades! What happiness for us, as we stop to think that most of you, who are only 18 or 19 years old on the average, have already earned the right to bear the Internationalist Combatant Medal and the Cuba-Angola Victory Medal! [end recording]

Some of the combatants who were praised today at the Cacahual Mausoleum arrived yesterday in our country. [Words indistinct] from Angola with the satisfaction of

having fulfilled our most sacred duty—to be an internationalist. The group was welcomed at the airport by Division General Senen Casas Regueiro, alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Politburo and first vice minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR]. Division General [title as heard] Pascual Rodriguez, and other representatives of political and mass organizations, as well as officials of the FAR and Ministry of the Interior also welcomed the combatants.

Out of the group that arrived last night, 140 of them bear the Internationalist Combatant Medal, second class; 2 bear the Ignacio Agramonte Medal; 13 bear the Defense of Cuito Cuanavale Medal; and the rest of them have the Cuba-Angola Victory Medal.

Ceremony for Graduating Internationalist Cadets

FL1406220089 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1944 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] In a beautiful ceremony held at the mausoleum of Lieutenant General Antonio Maceo y Grajales and his assistant Panchito Gomez Toro in Cacahual, close to 500 pre-cadets who fulfilled their internationalist mission in the People's Republic of Angola received their cadet epaulets.

Jorge Lezcano, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] in Havana City Province, gave the closing remarks at the ceremony. He stressed the qualities of the youths, who, with discipline, are graduating today. He said the cadets' parents should be proud to have sons like them. Lezcano expressed his conviction and certainty that our new cadets will not fail and on behalf of the PCC, the commander in chief, the minister of the FAR, he wished them success in their new tasks.

The new cadets returned on 8 and 9 June from the People's Republic of Angola where they studied and fulfilled their internationalist mission. The internationalist cadets who today received their epaulets expressed their firm commitment to graduate as FAR officials.

Upon reading the graduates' commitment, Cadet Jose Luna Espinosa said that becoming a FAR official will not be a way of life, but a meaning of life that assumes the determination to sacrifice one's life with dignity and honor in view of the fatherland's enemies. He said that the cadets take their immortal example from this historic location where the remains of Maceo, Gomez Toro, and the unforgettable Blas Roca are located.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro, alternate member of the PCC Politburo and first vice minister of the FAR, as well as other generals and officials, congratulated the cadets.

Havana TV Highlights Role of Youth Labor Army

FL1406181989

[Editorial report] Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 0100 GMT on 13 June carries its "Open Agenda" program on the the role of the Youth Labor Army [EJT] in the country.

After host Antonio Resillez introduces the program, the video shows Major Walter Pupo Mendez in front of a billboard with a picture of Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] Minister Raul Castro standing between two men, one dressed as a peasant wearing a soldier's cap and the other one wearing a military uniform and a peasant's hat. The three have their hands clasped together above their heads. Major Pupo explains that the original picture reproduced in this billboard was taken after the ceremony creating the EJT was held in Camaguey on 3 August 1973. He notes he is one of the two men standing next to Raul Castro. This scene was repeated almost 16 years later when Raul Castro inaugurated three new EJT communities some days ago. Castro, Pupo, and a general military service soldier are shown clasping their hands in the air.

The video shows Resillez in the studio with the chief of the EJT, Division General Rigoberto Garcia. Div Gen Garcia explains that the EJT was created when the permanent infantry divisions of the FAR and the Centenario youth column merged, responding to the labor force needs in certain areas of the country. Garcia notes that living conditions were very poor at the time. He says EJT members worked mainly in the sugar industry but also participated in the area of transportation, construction, and others. The chief of the EJT says that the EJT is operating in the 14 provinces of the country and the Isle of Youth special municipality.

The program praises the work of the EJT members and highlights the areas in which they have contributed, especially in developing the mountains. The video shows the modern facilities available to the EJT now and compares them to the ones they used to have. Numerous interviews with officials, EJT officers, and rank-and-file members stress the "attention to man" reflected through the medical services, food, and shelter provided to these men.

Jaime Crombet, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Secretariat, says: "One of the things that impresses me the most about the EJT is the concern for man, the attention given to the soldier, the humane treatment to man, the concern for each one of the details that have an effect in his life and work. Today I am convinced that the EJT is undoubtedly one of the best schools of revolutionaries, schools of cadres, or schools of communists that our youth count on. Suffice it to say that in the 15 years of the EJT, more than 56,000 members of the Union of Young Communists have come out of the EJT. This gives you an idea of the political and

ideological development, habits, skills, working and proletariat training, the working discipline the young man acquires, the permanent readiness for life, for any task he may encounter in the future.

"I believe the EJT is called to play very important roles in the future, in the economic development of the country, in livestock-agricultural programs, and in construction. I believe the EJT will have to organize its highly productive forces in tourism development in many areas, to fulfill the tourism programs we have ahead and many infrastructure projects the country is developing. The presence of the EJT is decisive in the mountains. It forms an essential part of the program of changes the Turquino Plan requires in our mountains, which can already be seen, in addition to being an indispensable element of the most productive forces of our sugar industry.

"Above all, I want to stress the training, educational character, and conditions that are created in the direct, daily, systematic work of the chiefs and cadres at all levels with each soldier to turn each one of them into a highly trained man ready to face any task the revolution may ask in the future in the construction of socialism in our fatherland."

The approximately 56-minute program ends with a video clip of Army General Raul Castro congratulating a group of EJT members for what they have done in their years of work.

Rodriguez Receives SELA Permanent Secretary
FL1406153089 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1402 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received Carlos Perez del Castillo [name as heard], permanent secretary of the Latin American Economic System, SELA, who is visiting our country.

The visit deals with the meetings that the SELA permanent secretary is carrying out with the governments of Latin America. The meetings are about the proposal that the organization presented on the foreign debt and which will soon be discussed.

Caribbean Affairs

CANA Worried About Radio Station's Future
FL0906224889 Bridgetown CANA in English 1437 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 9, CANA—The Caribbean News Agency (CANA) today announced it had weeks ago begun discussions with Radio Antilles on the station's future, in the light of plans by the West German Government to discontinue vital subsidies to the loss-making Montserrat-based station by yearend.

"CANA is concerned about the possible closure of Radio Antilles, which is an important media facility in the Caribbean," said CANA's general manager, Richard Henderson.

"CANA has already indicated to the management of Radio Antilles that it is interested in continuing discussions to see if there is a role that CANA can play to ensure the continued operations of Radio Antilles," Henderson added.

CANA, with headquarters in Barbados, operates wire and radio services, providing comprehensive coverage of regional events to media institutions in and outside of the area.

The agency's statement followed an announcement this week that the Montserrat chief minister, John Osbourne, will lead an OECS [Organization of Eastern Caribbean States] mission to West Germany for talks on the future of Radio Antilles, the most powerful A.M. station in the Eastern Caribbean.

Broadcasting Union To Air Program on Suriname
FL1306233489 Bridgetown CANA in English 2200 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 12, CANA—The Caribbean Broadcasting Union [CBU] in the 31st edition of its weekly television magazine Caribscope takes an in-depth look at Suriname. The 20-minute feature focuses on the history, political development, economy, and culture of the former Dutch colony.

Suriname Televisie Stichting (STVS), which produced the feature, is one of the three CBU members in former Dutch colonies. The other two are Telecuracao and Telearuba. The CBU has been discussing cooperation with TV St Maarten.

Caribscope 31 will be aired at different times by 18 TV stations in 17 countries.

Barbados Official Says Drug Trade Hurts Tourism
FL1306220889 Bridgetown CANA in English 2155 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Paradise Island, Bahamas, June 13, CANA—Caribbean beaches must be viewed as an economic zone facilitating both those seeking leisure and pursuing legitimate trade and at the same time be adequately policed to stamp out drug trafficking and harassment, a Barbadian politician has said here.

"In this way much of the informal activity would be gradually brought into the formal and economic framework and the drug and crime activity related to beaches would be correspondingly reduced," leader of the opposition, Dr Richie Haynes told delegates attending the annual Caribbean Hotel Industry Conference (CHIC), now into its third day.

Dr Haynes, who heads the National Democratic Party in Barbados, said that within the informal sector, beach vendors offered the sale of services ranging from companionship to prostitution.

"Where there is consent there is usually no problem, but this activity rapidly degenerates into harassment and has a negative impact on tourism efforts in the region," said Haynes who is a physician. He was the moderator of a seminar on the impact of drugs and crime on Caribbean tourism which had panelists from the Caribbean Tourism Organization [CTO], a Jamaican hotelier, and a U.S. customs official.

Haynes said that international publicity about the drug trade in the Caribbean has hurt the tourist industries in Jamaica and the Bahamas. He said beach encounters, including those for the purchase of drugs, sometimes ended in rape which was not often reported but the tourists and their friends simply did not return to the island. He stressed that it was the services sector led by tourism to which the Caribbean must look to find the capacity to earn vital foreign exchange to sustain its fragile open economies, stimulate employment generation, and provide additional demand for production in other sectors of the economy. But tourism, he said, has been a significant contributor to the increase in drug abuse in the region, directly and indirectly.

Haynes said there was not much the Caribbean could do to control the demand side so efforts should be concentrated on the supply side.

"There is increasing evidence that drug traffickers, operating under the guise of legitimate tourists, are taking advantage of the reduced surveillance at airports and seaports to facilitate the passage of tourists through customs and immigration," Haynes said. He said international cooperation was necessary to curb drug trafficking but the active participation of Caribbean citizens was equally important in dealing with the problem. Haynes said, too, that more attention and resources must be devoted to the orderly development and security of the industry.

Secretary general of the CTO, Jean Holder told delegates that out of 100 tourists on a Caribbean beach which CTO surveyed, 36 per cent reported that they had been offered one form or another of drug. "These included marijuana, cocaine, hasish, crack, amphetamines, and hallucinogenic mushrooms." The group most frequently offered these products were 20 to 29-year-olds, who were, not surprisingly the group that purchased them, Holder said. He said about one-fifth of those who stated that they did not want to purchase drugs said they were still harassed.

Holder said there were two prices for drugs—one for locals and the other for tourists, who paid twice the price for locals. He said Caribbean governments had not made enough resources available to tackle the problem but acknowledged that it was a "tricky problem" to resolve since politicians would hardly want to isolate any of their local constituency. Holder said the private sector and government should work together on the issue.

"The answer is that we must have regulations and we must have a system of enforcement and we must all start screaming and yelling that this is what has to happen," said the CTO official who said the problem though serious was not "massive."

Unfortunately, he said, some of those involved in enforcement felt they had more in common with the perpetrators of illegal activity than with the law enforcement agency. He said that there were some honest beach vendors who were disadvantaged by the behaviour of others. He said vendors should be exposed to training programmes highlighting the importance of tourism to the economy and the negative impact of some actions. [passage omitted]

Antigua and Barbuda

Tourism, Public Sector Investment Growth Reported

FL0806163389 Bridgetown CANA in English 2010 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 5, CANA—Growth in tourism and large public sector investments kept the Antigua and Barbuda economy buoyant last year.

The Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank [CDB] said it its annual report during 1988, the economy grew by an estimated 6.6 percent, compared with 8.7 percent in 1987. Tourism and large public sector investments were the major contributors to economic development. Private sector construction actitivy was strong and some recovery was recorded by manufacturing and by agriculture which was previously constrained by drought.

Along with signs of overheating of the economy in 1988 were reports of persistent labour distortions and an increased propensity to consume. There were many workers holding more than one job, excess labour in the public sector, and a severe shortage of skilled and professional manpower.

Notwithstanding the fact that a proportion of the additional income was injected into small businesses and home building, wage increases, averaging 28 percent over the last three years, together with the strength of consumer credit, encouraged consumption. This situation was compounded by weak public sector finances and mounting debt arrears, the CDB said it its annual report. Official statistics on price movements are not available, but there are indications that prices increased somewhat. Agriculture grew by an estimated four percent in 1988, compared with around seven percent in 1987, despite continued labour shortages. Exports declined because of marketing difficulties experienced by a large producer of winter vegetables. Some small

farmers were, however, able to find export outlets through the Caribbean Agricultural Trading Company. Cotton production continued to decline as farmers left the industry, discouraged by falling prices and persistently unfavourable weather conditions during planting and harvesting. On the other hand, output of pineapples for domestic consumption almost doubled and fruit crop production rose under the Antigua sugar industry corporation's diversification programme. The European Development Fund's livestock project which began in 1987 faltered because of administrative delays and difficulties in attracting technical staff. To encourage growth in the sector, the government introduced a number of incentives during 1988, including duty-free concessions on imported equipment, free planting materials and subsidised inputs.

The manufacturing sector recovered modestly in 1988 driven mainly by rising domestic demand and some expansion in the OECS [Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States] member states demand for garments, paints and household appliances. As a consequence, the existing government-owned factory shells were fully occupied, stimulating private firms to start construction of additional facilities. A new thrust into agro-processing was typified by a joint effort between local and Venezuelan concerns to produce fruit juices. Nevertheless, the sector was seriously constrained by industrial disputes, labour shortages and uncompetitive wage rates.

Construction and installation activities grew by nine percent in 1988 (36.4 percent in 1987) with continued high levels of public sector investment, the private sector responding to concessions given by the government to redevelop the St John's area, and the banking system directing special resources to the sector. A salient feature of the continuing building boom was the award of large contracts to foreign firms because of the nature of their financing arrangements.

Despite labour shortages and rising costs of inputs, about 75 [passage indistinct] at 302,739, or 19 percent above the figure for the comparable period of 1987.

Cruise ship traffic grew by about 28.2 percent to 158,784 and stopover visitors expanded by 10 percent to 143,955. The United States remained the principal market although visitors from this market fell by 2.9 percent. The number of Canadian visitors also declined. In contrast, arrivals from Western Europe and the United Kingdom jumped by 75 percent and 33.9 percent, respectively, and in aggregate accounted for 26.4 percent of the total stopover visitors. Arrivals from Europe expanded in response to increased promotion by the tourist board. A new office was opened in Frankfurt, and three additional flights per week were introduced. Another major development was the introduction of a new airline charter out of North America.

It is estimated that tourist expenditures amounted to EC221.9 million dollars (one EC dollar; 37 cent U.S.) in 1988 (186.7 million dollars in 1987). With two new hotels coming into operation, and the number of rooms increased from 2,604 to 3,112. In addition, two phases of the St John's re-development project—26 fully-occupied condominiums and the Heritage Quay with 40 duty-free shops at the harbour—commenced operations. The entertainment complex at Heritage Quay was scheduled to be completed early in 1989.

Economic expansion together with higher rates of interest on saving deposits led to a rise in commercial bank deposits to 194.3 million dollars in September 1988, 13 percent over the September 1987 level. Savings deposits rose by 26 percent to 70.3 million, time deposits by 11 percent to 82.8 million dollars and demand deposits by seven percent to 30.8 million dollars. Foreign currency deposits, on the other hand fell by 18 percent to 10.4 million dollars. Liquidity, including non-statutory deposits with the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, declined.

At September 1988, loans and advances stood at 176.9 million dollars, up by 20 percent over the amount outstanding at September 1987. The increased credit mainly to finance the purchase of houses, land and consumer durables and activities in the public sector, distributive trade, tourism and construction. Although the central government awarded a substantial wage increase to employees in 1988, economic buoyancy fostered an increase in the current account surplus. Current revenues, particularly from international transactions, increased by 14.2 percent to an estimated 70.4 million dollars. Current expenditure rose by 11.8 percent to 66.7 million dollars, almost 40 percent of which was caused by an increase in personal emoluments, including retroactive salary payments. Capital expenditure fell from 17.4 million to an estimated 11.9 million dollars and was financed mainly from external grants and borrowing.

The CDB said that based on the performance of major economic indicators, it was estimated that the balance of payments deteriorated in 1988. The visible trade deficit, in particular, widened as increased wage levels stimulated consumption and, with the construction boom, an increased demand for imported inputs. The external debt dropped to an estimated 239 million dollars, down from 244.2 million dollars at the end of 1987. Notwithstanding the decline, there was a considerable jump in the stock of arrears, estimated at 77.3 million dollars (including currency valuation). It is projected that real growth will range between three percent and six percent over the short to medium term, the bank said. "Competition from cheaper destinations, such as Mexico, does not augur well for strong growth in visitor arrivals," it noted.

Nonetheless, private investors are considering substantial additions to visitor accommodations over the next few years. Growth in the manufacturing and agriculture sectors is expected to be modest and may be constrained

by the inadequate supply of workers, and, in the case of manufacturing, the rate of expansion of Caricom [Caribbean Common Market] trade. Increased economic activity plus the efforts to contain expenditure growth should result in surplus on central government's current account. However, public sector savings, as a whole, will not improve unless user charges are brought in line with economic costs, the bank remarked.

Barbados

Government Seeks Taxation Treaties With Europe

FL1006023289 Bridgetown CANA in English
2245 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 9, CANA—The Barbados Government on Friday reported it was seeking double taxation treaties with countries including Japan and Finland to boost its offshore business sector. "Government is extending Barbados' network of double taxation treaties as part of the drive to enhance Barbados appeal as a favourable domicile for those businesses which, because of the nature and extent of their operations, can benefit from international tax planning," Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford said at the first meeting of local chapter of the International Fiscal Association.

"We hope soon to sign a double taxation treaty with Finland and to follow this by agreements with Norway and Sweden."

Sandiford, who is also Barbados' finance minister, told the gathering that negotiations will continue with West Germany and "approaches are being made to Japan and Venezuela for double taxation treaties with Barbados."

He also raised the issue of negotiations with the United States, where Congress voted to drop concessions to the insurance sector in a double taxation treaty.

"We are fully aware that very difficult negotiations are ahead of us in respect of the unilateral changes injected into our treaty with the United States," Sandiford said. "From a position of moral strength, my government will negotiate the matter with the United States."

Sandiford added: "Careful consideration is being given to the timing of the second round of discussions so as to ensure that the most favourable conditions exist for maximum progress. My government is seeking to remove any cobwebs of uncertainty hanging over the international business services sector in Barbados."

Sandiford said these matters "must be approached, not in a mad rush, but with due and deliberate speed."

With good will prevailing, he said, Barbados aimed "to ensure that the most favourable conditions are negotiated."

The prime minister also told the gathering that Barbados had built on an "enviable record" of stability, growth and development, with this year the government making some headway in improving its finances.

Provisional figures show that at the end of May, current revenue was 156.3 million dollars (one BDS dollar-50 U.S. cents), current expenditure at 135.6 million, and capital expenditure at 28.3 million.

This meant that the 27.3 million dollar overall deficit for the same period last year had been pared to 7.6 million dollars.

Sandiford also said his government was reviewing the tax system "to ensure that it serves its objectives."

Drivers End Strikes, Prepare To Work

FL1006120689 Bridgetown CANA in English
2336 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 9, CANA—Drivers employed by the state-operated Transport Board in Barbados prepared to return to work this evening, ending a strike triggered by the suspension of two colleagues.

A statement issued by permanent secretary in the Ministery of Transport and Works, Lionel Weekes, said all but the two suspended drivers would return to work and "disciplinary hearings" would be held Saturday at the Barbados workers unions headquarters.

"As a result of a meeting between the Ministry of Transport and Works, the Transport Board and the Barbados Workers Union, held at the Ministry of Transport and Works this afternoon," the statement read "agreement has been reached that workers of the Transport Board excluding the suspended workers, Brantley Kirton and Rudolph Yarde, will resume work this evening.

"Disciplinary hearings are scheduled for tomorrow at 10 A.M. at Solidarity House after which a full statement will be issued."

Bus drivers went on strike Wednesday, protesting the suspensions, said to be triggered by the refusal of a driver to use a vehicle he considered defective. The public transport service worsened Friday morning when private buses went off the road in a protest over suspended jail sentences against two drivers for carrying too many passengers.

President of the Minibus Association, Dennis Tull, urged drivers to return to work.

Former Health, Social Services Minister Dies

FL0806225889 Bridgetown CANA in English
2232 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 8, CANA—Former Barbados Health Minister, Freddie Miller, died here today.

Miller, the island's first minister of health and social services, died at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. He was 78.

For years Miller had operated a business on Tudor Street in Bridgetown.

He is the father of former Education Minister Billie Miller and an uncle of city MP Peter Miller.

Dominica

Prime Minister Denies Early Election Rumors

FL1306203589 Bridgetown CANA in English 1556 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, June 13, CANA—Prime Minister Mary Eugenia Charles has brushed aside speculation she might call an early poll and reiterated her government's intention to continue its full five-year term in office.

"Elections are not due until next year," she told her party's 22d annual national convention in La Plaine 30 miles east of Roseau.

"We have a lot of work to do. We have said this before. We have a lot of plans to carry out, and we intend to use the time the constitution gives us to carry out those plans," the prime minister said. "People who want to have early elections can go ahead and have them by themselves if they want. We are going to see to it that the work we want done is done."

The prime minister also expressed anger about vulgar graffiti on the walls of the school where the convention was held Sunday.

Prime Minister Raises Ceiling on Taxable Income

FL1306192589 Bridgetown CANA in English 1539 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Roseau, Dominica June 13, CANA—Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Mary Eugenia Charles raised the ceiling on taxable incomes from 9,000 dollars to 12,000 dollars, freeing about 850 more Dominicans from taxes in what many have dubbed an election budget. There were no new taxes in the 208.8 million East Caribbean [EC] dollars (one EC dollar; 37 U.S. cents) budget she presented Monday and a pledge to remove a 20 per cent tax on basic food items. The new tax ceiling and removal of the consumption tax becomes effective January 1, 1990.

"When we made the changes to the income tax rate in the 1987/88 budget, we removed 3,361 workers from the tax roll and distributed benefits in excess of 5 million dollars (EC) to tax payers," the prime minister said. "We stated then quite clearly that the threshhold and rates were to be reviewed on a regular basis to adjust for the effect of fiscal drag and to keep the threshhold and rates in line with increases in income level."

She announced that on annual income up to 12,000 dollars no tax will be levied while from 12,000 to 30,000 dollars the rate will be 20 per cent. From 30,000 to 60,000 it will be 30 per cent and over 60,000 dollars 40 per cent. She said everybody would benefit from this change.

Financial Secretary Gilbert Williams explained that the removal of consumption taxes should impact greatly on retail prices since shopkeepers factor this into their current mark up. Prime Minister Charles told parliament that her government had decided to remove the tax on milk, cheese, dried or salted fish, smoked herring, flour, rice, sugar, natural yeast, baking powder, salt, and medicines.

The finance minister said the government had recognised that the new rates of import duties that would come into effect in 1990 "could affect prices generally, unless the direction of trade changes instantly in favour of Caricom products." "Our aim is to ensure the living standard of persons in the low-income scale, will not be lowered," Miss Charles explained. She said the cost of this exemption was estimated at 3.9 million dollars.

Also receiving a cheer from the opposition as well as from the visitors gallery was the announcement that the three per cent sales tax would be restructured to remove the "cascading" effect. From January 1, 1990, the sales tax will apply only to retail sales. Three beneficial results will be the removal of the "cascading" effect at two levels of transaction—wholesale and retail, Miss Charles said. It will give retailers a fair chance of competition with wholesalers who are also retailers, and it will reduce consumer prices generally.

Asked how all these exemptions would be recouped, Financial Secretary Williams said there would be more money to spend, there would also be an increase in imports, as well as more construction work, and there should be more employment which would mean more income tax.

The Dominica Government is expected to realise a surplus of 22.6 million dollars for the financial year 1989/90. Prime Minister Charles said current revenue had been put at 131.5 million dollars for the financial year beginning July 1, 1989, while recurrent expenditure has been put at 108.9 million dollars. When contacted after the prime minister's address, the financial secretary said that the 15 million dollar surplus forcast for the fiscal year which ends June 30, 1989 was now expected to exceed 21 million dollars.

Dominican Republic

Military Leaders Meet Presidency Secretary

FL1406230689 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 2137 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] The country's highest military leaders have met for almost an hour with the secretary of state for the Presidency, Rafael Bello Andino, in his office in the

National Palace. Those participating in the meeting included Armed Forces Secretary Wessin y Wessin, Police Chief Nelson Jose Morillo Rodriguez, National Department of Investigation Chief Manuel Antonio Lachapelle Suero, and Dominican Air Force Chief Miguel de la Cruz. The country's principal military leaders that met with the secretary of state of the Presidency refused to speak to journalists after their meeting with Bello Andino.

The meeting of the principal Armed Forces leaders was held at a time when the country is preparing for a national general strike in demand for a change in the government's economic policy, a minimum wage of 1,000 pesos, modified income taxes, and other demands. The strike scheduled for 19 June was called by trade union, people's, professional, peasant, and religious organizations throughout the country.

(?Spokesmen) refused to say what was discussed during the meeting with Bello Andino in the National Palace but it is suspected that they discussed measures that will be taken for the strike, which according to strike organizers, will begin Monday at 0600.

Grenada

Government Reaches 'Understanding' on Elections

FL0806155489 Bridgetown CANA in English
1409 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] St George's, Grenada, June 8, CANA—Dr Keith Mitchell, minister for communications and works and political leader of the New National Party (NNP), says he has reached an understanding with Prime Minister Herbert Blaize on the general elections issue. But it was unclear on Thursday whether the two had agreed on holding an early general election. Mitchell gave no details of the discussions between the two leaders, whose relations have been cool for months.

The Grenada Government must call general elections by the end of March.

Arising from a "mandate" Mitchell received from an NNP rally last Sunday to have general elections "soon," Mitchell called a meeting of the party executive last Monday.

According to the Grenada Constitution, the decision to advise the governor general to dissolve parliament (following which general elections must be held within three months) rests with the prime minister, and a delegation headed by Mitchell was appointed by the executive to have discussions with Blaize on the issue within two days. Those discussions were held on Wednesday but, apart from saying that an "understanding" had been reached, Mitchell declined to comment on the possible date for elections.

The political leader said he planned to stage another rally late in July, but he was noncommittal as to whether the election date would be announced then.

Blaize Defends Decision To Bar Marxist Books

FL1206232789 Bridgetown CANA in English
2157 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] St George's, Grenada, June 12, CANA—Prime Minister Herbert Blaize has again defended Grenada's decision to bar a number of Marxist books from entering the country. He told the nation in a weekend radio broadcast that over the past several weeks the Grenada Government received a number of letters from abroad concerning the island's refusal to allow the books in. Blaize described the "loud noise" coming from outside as not unexpected.

Government on several occasions has blocked the entry of several books sent to the small Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement [MBPM] from the U.S.-based Pathfinder Press. In March, it prevented two officials of Pathfinder from staying in Grenada to take part in activities organised by the MBPM to mark the 10th anniversary of Grenada's left-wing revolution.

Blaize said the Grenada Government has stated that it would not endorse any March 13, 1979 celebrations of the armed overthrow of the elected Eric Gairy government by the left-wing New Jewel Movement [NJM]. "We shall never subscribe to the principle that governments should be changed by the bullet rather than the ballot," he remarked. "Any literature that advocates that method would not be welcomed here," he said.

Blaize said he regarded the armed overthrow of Gairy government by the NJM of late Prime Minister Maurice Bishop as the worst historic event to have happened in Grenada. He spoke of the Grenada Government not being against books or the spreading of knowledge.

He pointed to the fact that delegates from countries such as Cuba and Nicaragua were allowed entry into Grenada one week after the March 13 celebrations to attend a workshop organised by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation. Blaize, however, said that the Grenada Governments response would be "no way" to any foreigner seeking entry to celebrate the 1979 coup.

Last year, several Caribbean left-wing activists were booted out of Grenada on arrival for MBPM-sponsored activities.

National Party Official Denies Leadership Crisis

FL1206232689 Bridgetown CANA in English
2126 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] St George's, Grenada June 12, CANA—Executive member of Grenada's problem-plagued ruling New National Party [NNP] government Dr John Watts says there is no leadership crisis in the party. Watts said the

party, in a "democratic manner," decided at its convention in January to replace Prime Minister Herbert Blaize with Public Utilities Minister Dr Keith Mitchell as political leader.

"There is no crisis in the leadership of NNP. We have a political leader in whom we have full confidence," he told party supporters.

Since the leadership change, Mitchell and Blaize have been at loggerheads on issues that include a date for new elections. Mitchell, along with Watts, and party chairman Senator Larry Joseph met with Blaize last Wednesday to discuss the date for elections.

Watts outlined to NNP party supporters some of the main factors which were taken into consideration in reaching the decision to remove Blaize from the leadership. He said that uppermost in the party's mind was the need "to think about the future." He described Mitchell as one of the hardest workers in the the government.

"...Keith Mitchell has proven...that he has leadership qualities and most importantly if there is any person in the NNP who relates to the people in every walk of life it is Keith Mitchell," he said. "Consequently, I as the old soldier in the Army, I have thrown my full support behind Keith Mitchell as our political leader," he added.

Before the formation of the NNP, Watts was a member of Blaize's Grenada National Party faction of the coalition government. Watts was leader of the GNP before having to give way to Blaize in the late 1950's.

Haiti

Caricom, Canadian Delegations Visit

FL1406131689 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] A six-member Caricom, Caribbean Common Market, delegation today ended a 6-day visit to Haiti. During its visit, the mission, headed by Davidson Hepburn, Bahamian ambassador to Haiti, met with the president of the military government, the interim commander of the Army, and six Haitian ministers. The Caricom delegation prepared a future visit by Caricom officials at the ministerial level. The date of this visit has not been given.

The Caricom mission visited Haiti at the invitation of the military government, which insisted on thanking the Caribbean English-speaking countries for their recent support for Haiti's candidacy to the Lome accords, the ACP [African, Caribbean, and Pacific] agreements. Official sources said Haiti, which has observer status within Caricom, is not a candidate for full membership in this organization.

Also, Canadian investors have been in Haiti for a few days now. A report in the paper L'UNION says they are studying with Haitian officials the possibility of an agreement to reopen ENAOL [Entreprise Nationale d'Oleagineux, National Oilseeds Enterprise]. According to the paper, these Canadian investors are ready to provide the funds necessary to unblock the situation at Enaol, which went bankrupt.

The group, which has already met with the ministers of Agriculture and Commerce as well as with other official government sectors, was to have a work meeting this morning at the National Palace with President Avril.

We point out that Commerce and Industry Minister Yvon Cesar is not in Haiti at present. Planning and External Cooperation Minister Theophile Roche has been interim commerce minister since 10 June.

Investigating Committee Making No Progress

FL1306194089 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Excerpts] The work of the new investigating committee that was formed by the Avril government on the eve of the first anniversary of the 29 November massacre is making no progress whatsoever. [passage omitted] The Ministry of Justice, whose role is to have this dossier progress, has kept silent about this matter since the ministry's first meeting with some of the members of this investigating committee, who asked that the government put back into effect 2 of the 36 constitutional articles that it shelved: Articles 42 and 42.3.

There has been total silence on this matter since back then. Here is reporter Marie Josee's report.

[Marie Josee] There is increasing insecurity, criminal acts, and fires in Haiti. Some observers say the prevailing climate of insecurity reminds them of the period preceding the (?bloody) 29 November 1987 elections. To this day no light has been cast on that 29 November massacre. [passage omitted]

According to Raymond Exume, who represented the AJH [Haitian Journalists Association] during the talks held with the Justice Minister on this new investigating committee, all contact was broken off as of the moment the members of the committee asked that the government reinstate Articles 42 to 42.3 of the Constitution, which were among the 36 articles shelved. The participants in this investigating committee say the committee will not be able to do its job without these articles.

According to Raymond Exume, the participants were also supposed to prepare, at the request of the human rights organizations, a draft decree with which to replace the 28 November decree. However, this was never done.

[Begin recording] [Exume] [Passage omitted] To tell you the truth, we did notice a willingness on the part of the Justice Ministry because they were willing to and did sit and listen to us. They noted everything we said and said they would follow up. Of course, they have never followed up on what we said. [passage omitted] They also said that it was true that the decree issued was not (?appropriate), that it was not in keeping with any norms because the decree was not clear. There were a number of mistakes in the decree. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Does this mean that you people are not willing to get to work until they respond to your requests? That is, that they put back into effect a number of articles, such as 42, 42.1, to 42.3?

[Exume] Exactly. We feel these articles are extremely important. No real investigation into the 29 November massacre can be conducted without their being in effect. [end recording] [passage omitted]

We tried to contact Justice Ministry authorities on this matter of the investigating committee. However, we were unable to get anyone to give us any information on this matter.

Former Detectives To Turn In Weapons, Cards
FL1306122289 Port-au-Prince L'UNION in French No 150, 10-12 Jun 89 pp 1, 12

[All names as published]

[Text] In a follow-up to the Ministry of Interior and National Defense communique of 19 May 1989, the Port-au-Prince Police asks the following third group of former Dessalines Barracks detectives to bring the weapons and cards in their possession in to police general headquarters on the Champ de Mars as soon as possible: Gesner Bellefleur, Hilaire Dieuseul, Rene Nobles, Eric Mackenzie, Fritz Delienne, Occil Joseph, Rene Moise, Dieuseul Saint-Eloi, Jean Claude Alcime, Stephen Pierre, Phito Jean Jules, Charles Henri Amisial, Maurice Helioner, Vilson Pierre, Robert Lacrete, Max Pierre-Louis, Rudy Cameau, Scius Nelson, Yvel Guerrier, Andre Jean Julien, Pierrevil Jean Joseme, Rolandes Daciere, Raynold Orisme, Daniel Supre, Jespere Valerius, Siliora Jeremie, Jean Karl Eveillard, Emile Demadais, Jean Thelior Aris, Ronald Bonnet, Gerald Cazy, Jean Joseph Mercier, Reserve Domond, Felix Ustyl, Hugues Jerome.

By order of Lieutenant Colonel Augustin,

[Signed] Jodel Lessage, executive officer in charge of public relations.

CATH Leader Forbidden To Serve as Spokesman
FL1306120889 Port-au-Prince LE MATIN in French No 26.744, 10-12 Jun 89 p 6

[Text] Regarding Gabriel Miracle, who is in disgrace, according to Jean-Auguste Mesieux [name as published], Miracle has not been booted out of the CATH [Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers] and is still CATH secretary general [position as published]. However, the CATH leadership has decided to "shut him up" because he asked Finance Minister Leonce Thelusma for a job "for a friend."

As punishment, Mr Miracle has been forbidden to serve as CATH spokesman for a good length of time.

Camera Films Sergeants Perpetrating Burglaries
FL1406131589 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network in Creole 1100 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] The latest issue of HAITI EN MARCHE reports, under the title "Banditry, Corruption, and Tolerance," that one of the groups of gangsters [preceding word in English] robbing stores and residences every night, and sometimes even in broad daylight, in both the capital and the provinces recently broke into the Acra (?store), a commercial complex in Port-au-Prince. The paper reports that the gangsters set to work immediately unaware that the store had a security system involving cameras. The cameras filmed the criminals at work.

The following morning, when the owner saw that the place had been broken into, he made several copies of the film.

He went to the police department. HAITI EN MARCHE says that the police department acknowledged that most of the thieves are Army sergeants and corporals.

The merchant, in turn, was very surprised to hear the chief of police state that this matter was beyond the realm of his responsibilities. HAITI EN MARCHE says the matter was taken before the chief of state, Lieutenant General Prosper Avril, who viewed the film. The thieves were indeed sergeants and corporals.

And, according to HAITI EN MARCHE, what did the general decide to do? He decided to reimburse the merchant for his losses. It looks as if he couldn't rule on the matter either.

More Fires Reported in Downtown Port-au-Prince
FL1206183889 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 1300 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Excerpts] A large fire broke out in the area of Rue Traversiere/Boulevard Jean-Jacques Dessalines, also known as Grand Rue, on the night of Saturday, 10 June to Sunday, 11 June. The stores belonging to Franklin Elie and Raphael Riccardi burned down as did Pharmacie

Vallieres. The firemen from the Port-au-Prince international airport had to come to the aid of the Port-au-Prince firemen because the Port-au-Prince firemen were not at all able to control the fire. [passage omitted]

No one knows how the fire started. Witnesses say the material damage is extensive. However, there were no deaths, thank God. Dr Carlo Boulos, owner of Pharmacie Vallieres, says the fire appears to have broken out at the store called (Chez Tamil) and spread to the pharmacy's warehouse and the other businesses. [passage omitted]

We remind listeners that last week it was the turn of the Hopital Francais d'Haiti. [passage omitted]

Jamaica

Manley To Meet U.S. Congressmen, Tour Europe

FL0906142189 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley travels today to Washington D.C. to meet with U.S. officials. Mr Manley will meet with U.S. congressmen and will discuss legislation relating to the Caribbean and Central America.

The Jamaican prime minister will then begin a tour of Europe [word indistinct] meet various heads of state. His first stop will be in Paris where he will discuss the rescheduling of Jamaica's foreign debt. Mr Manley will meet with Paris Club chairman Jean Claude Trichet. The Paris Club is the name given to a group of donor nations.

Nation's Exports to Region Decline

FL0906223789 Bridgetown CANA in English 1756 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, June 9, CANA—Jamaica's positive trade balance with her Caribbean Community [Caricom] trading partners was reversed in the first three months of 1989 as imports from the region grew by 31 percent, according to the statistical bulletin, a government publication.

Imports for the first quarter of 1989 stood at U.S. 15.8 million dollars while exports were valued at U.S.12.5 million dollars, with a trade deficit of U.S. 3.3 million dollars.

Jamaica earned a first quarter trade surplus of U.S. 317,000 dollars last year. Imports for the first quarter of last year were valued at U.S. 12.1 million dollars while exports amounted to U.S. 12.4 million dollars.

Increases in the importation of manufactured goods and food were largely responsible for the overall rise in imports for the 1989 first quarter. Food imports from Caricom amounted to U.S. 4.3 million dollars in the first quarter of 1989. This was U.S. 1.5 million over the U.S. 2.9 million imported in the first quarter of 1988.

Imports of beverage and tobacco from the region totalled U.S. 2.3 million dollars in the 1989 first quarter. This compares with the U.S. 1.1 million dollars imported in the first quarter of 1988.

Jamaica imported U.S. 4.9 million dollars in manufactured goods classified chiefly by materials, from the region in the first three months of 1989. This was U.S. 1.6 million more than the U.S. 3.3 million dollars imported in the first quarter of 1988.

Last year, Jamaica exported some U.S. 58.8 million dollars worth of goods to the Caricom region and imported U.S. 55.9 million. This resulted in an overall trade surplus of U.S. 2.67 million last year.

Finance Minister Announces New Tax Measures

FL1006021689 Bridgetown CANA in English 1741 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, June 9, CANA—The Jamaican Government on Thursday asserted there would be no devaluation of the dollar, but imposed new tax increases on travel, telephone service, education and motor vehicle sales here.

The hikes were announced as it opened the debate on its 9 billion dollar (one J dollar-about 18 U.S. cents) budget in Parliament.

The increased taxes are expected to net 205 million Jamaican dollars this year, to close a similar deficit in revenues required to finance the 1989/90 capital expenditures. The new taxes are likely to generate much public discussion, in light of the government's decision to maintain the 10 percent wage guideline introduced by the Edward Seaga government as part of an aid package agreed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The increase in telephone tax which became effective on Friday comes at a time when there is growing criticism of the facilities offered by the telephone company.

The telephone tax was increased from 10 per cent to 15 per cent. Travel tax has been raised from 40 dollars to 80 dollars, except for cruise ship passengers who will continue to pay 22 Jamaican dollars. The education tax has been increased from 1 per cent to 3 per cent for employers and 1 per cent to two per cent for employees. The retail sales tax on motor vehicles has moved from 57 per cent to 84 per cent on motor cars with a Cost, Insurance, Frieght (CIF) value of U.S. 15,000 dollars and with engine capacity exceeding 2,000 cc.

In a speech which lasted over three hours, Minister of Finance and the Public Sector, Seymour Mullings told Parliament that the expected revenue for 1989/90 was 822 million Jamaican dollars. However, there was a capital expenditure, inclusive of amortization of 3,523 million dollars, which left a deficit of 2,129.5 million Jamaican dollars.

The government, he said, had identified loans, external and local, totalling 1,924.5 million Jamaican dollars, which meant that there was a gap of 205 million Jamaican dollars to be financed.

On the issue of devaluation, the finance minister said that there would be no need for one as long as certain conditions obtained.

The government, he said, had had tough negotiations with the IMF to secure support for the best program possible in the current circumstances. The new programme, Mullings said, was designed to support a stable value for the currency for the full year. "To the extent, however that the international environment does not become hostile and export earnings remain on track and the demand for foreign exchange to meet import and other payments remain within the zone of what we have projected, there will be no need for a devaluation of the Jamaican dollar," Mullings said.

On other issues, the Jamaican finance minister said that an export rebate scheme which subsidises exporters to the tune of 7.5 per cent of the invoice value of goods would be discontinued on December 31 this year when a general consumption tax will be introduced.

The government, he said, was in discussions with the banking sector to see if further increases in interest rates could be avoided.

The finance minister was responding to reports that commercial banks would increase lending rates by as much as one and a half per cent because of losses the banks face from new policy measures introduced by the government.

The Jamaican Central Bank had announced last week that as of July 1 it would stop interest payments on cash reserves which the banks must deposit with the Bank of Jamaica.

The finance minister said the government was aware that current interest rates were high, but did not have sufficient foreign exchange resources to meet demands.

2 Persons Shot in Kingston Prison Dispute

FL1306193189 Bridgetown CANA in English
1845 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, June 13, CANA—A prisoner and an inmate were shot and injured after a dispute at Jamaica's biggest prison on Monday, the police reported Tuesday.

According to police reports, prison warder Carlton Salmon 33 and inmate, Selwyn Campbell, were wounded when warders fired shots in the air to quell a disturbance at the general penitentiary in Kingston, which resulted from a dispute among prisoners "over political matters."

St Lucia

Prime Minister Wants Security System Expansion

FL0806233189 Bridgetown CANA in English
2317 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, June 8, CANA—St Lucia's prime minister, John Compton, on Thursday called for the expansion of the regional security system to include Trinidad and Tobago.

Addressing a passing-out parade of police recruits from the regional Police Training School here, he said: "It should be extended southward to include Trinidad and Tobago to guard our southern flank and be recognised by the Caribbean Community as one of our instruments of cooperation."

The security system is largely made up of small Caribbean countries such as St Lucia, Dominica and St Vincent. Barbados is also a member.

Some members, including Barbados, in the past urged Trinidad and Tobago to join, without success, a system that provides coastal surveillance and other services. Compton also told the gathering that Caribbean countries are respected by the outside world because they have maintained certain traditions of government and defined the role for the police.

He said they do not attract the attention of the human rights watchdog Amnesty International because the concept of political prisoners "is unknown in our system and would be unacceptable to our people".

He said the respect of human rights and human dignity "is a living part of our political and social culture" and the "natural consequence of the democratic system which we have embraced and which we have sustained through good economic times and bad".

Those graduating from the regional training school were several St Lucians.

Compton: Island Used as Drug Transshipment Point

FL1406205089 Bridgetown CANA in English
1919 GMT 13 Jun 89

[By Ernie Seon]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, June 13, CANA—Prime Minister John Compton has complained that the southern part of the island is being used as transshipment point for drugs bound for St Vincent and the Grenadines and Martinique. In an interview with CANA, Compton said that, because of this, the police department here has stepped up its surveillance in the area.

The prime minister was reacting to a statement from a United States customs spokesman, Michael Sheehan, Monday that drug barons have turned some Caribbean

countries into transshipment points for arms to South America. He did not name the countries involved. "When we first received reports a couple of years ago that St Lucia Airways was being used for gun-running activities, I thought this was ludicrous and it turned out that this was not as absurd as I first thought," he said. "But it is one of the things we are constantly on our guard against. We know that drugs enter St Lucia, we know that the southern part of St Lucia is used as a transshipment point for drugs going into Martinique and St Vincent and the Grenadines, and we have stepped up our surveillance in that area," Compton added.

He said that government is receiving external assistance in dealing with the problem but declined to say the nature of the help. "This form of assistance is of a confidential nature but we have a regional organization for the combatting of drug traffic and this organization is in place. We get information and we exchange information," he added.

Official Visits With PRC Suspended, Canceled
PA1306125989 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0555 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Mexico City, 12 Jun (EFE)—The Mexican Foreign Secretariat reported today that the upcoming official visits to Mexico by Chinese President Yang Shangkun and Foreign Minister Qian Qichen have been suspended.

In a press communique, the Mexican Foreign Secretariat added that Mexican Foreign Secretary Fernando Solana canceled a visit to Beijing scheduled for the 2d half of 1989.

The communique added that those measures were adopted "in view of the situation that prevails" in China, a country with which Mexico established diplomatic relations in March 1972.

The Chinese foreign minister made a stopover in Mexico on his way from Quito to Havana. The Chinese foreign minister left Havana for Beijing on 10 June.

The Mexican Foreign Secretariat stated that "in view of the serious situation the PRC is experiencing, the Mexican Government regrets the incidents that have taken place in that country, which began with the condemnable violence that broke out in Tiananmen Square, the regrettable bloodshed, and the death of Chinese youths."

The communique indicated that as a result of the "situation of unrest that prevails in China and the persecution of people," the Mexican Government adopted measures to facilitate the departure of 22 Mexicans who were in China and who decided to leave that country.

The communique adds that Mexican Ambassador to China Jorge Eduardo Navarette and a reduced number of embassy personnel will remain in Beijing to continue reporting on what is happening there and to be alert for any protective measures that may be necessary in the next few weeks.

Government Sends Condolence Message to Gorbachev
PA1406031389 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 7 Jun 89 p 3

[Condolence message from President Carlos Salinas de Gortari to Mikhail Gorbachev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on disaster caused by 4 June gas line explosion in Urals—place and date not given]

[Text] I extend to Your Excellency sincere condolences and sympathy for the regrettable loss of lives that has affected many Soviet households.

The Mexican Government and people join your friendly nation in this moment of sorrow and mourning.

Ambassador in Venezuela To Strengthen Relations
PA1406024089 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 6 Jun 89 p 3

[Text] Alejandro Sobarzo Loaiza, new Mexican ambassador to Venezuela, left Mexico City for Caracas yesterday. Before his departure, Sobarzo Loaiza met with President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, who instructed him to strengthen political and commercial relations with Venezuela.

Costa Rica

Arias, Quayle Discuss Regional Democracy

PA1406181789 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1529 GMT 14 Jun 89

[News conference with President Oscar Arias and U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle by unidentified local and foreign reporters at Arias' residence in San Jose—live]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Arias] I want to thank Vice President Dan Quayle for his visit, and I regret that it has been so short. We had an opportunity to discuss the main problems affecting Central America. I believe we agree that lasting peace in this region will never be achieved unless there is democracy and unless the will of the majority of the people as expressed in elections is respected. We also discussed bilateral topics. On behalf of our people, I want to thank him for the assistance and support we have received from the U.S. Government in our struggle to overcome underdevelopment. I thank him in particular because Costa Rica has been chosen as one of the first countries to buy back its debt as part of the Brady plan, a plan that will eliminate the main obstacle to Latin American development.

[Moderator] We will now have a brief question-and-answer session, and we begin with questions in Spanish.

[Reporter] There has been talk about isolating Nicaragua. I would like to ask you if it is possible to implement the Esquipulas agreement without Nicaragua?

[Arias] The Esquipulas agreement is a peace plan in which the five presidents—five governments, five peoples—made a commitment, and it is not possible to implement Esquipulas II without Nicaragua. We all have the obligation to comply with the plan, and there is no excuse for any country not to comply with what we agreed on in August 1987. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] I would like to ask President Arias a question: During his Central American tour, Vice President Quayle has been harshly attacking the Sandinists, saying they are not complying with the Esquipulas II agreement. [Words indistinct] the hostilities [word indistinct]. Do you agree with this? Also, do you think it is correct for the United States to be making statements to that effect?

[Arias] I think that all of us who contribute to the peace process should speak out and call on all the signatories of Esquipulas II to comply with the plan. In the specific case of Nicaragua, [words indistinct] with the war, and now it is being given an opportunity through diplomacy—through the peace plan. The most important upcoming event in Nicaragua is the free and pluralistic elections in which all opposition political parties should be given equal opportunities to participate. I feel that the present legislation makes it almost impossible to have fair elections in Nicaragua. Under Nicaragua's electoral and media laws, it is impossible to hold free, pluralistic elections under equal opportunities for all parties.

It is not that I am hoping those elections will be like the Costa Rican elections or the U.S. elections, because this would be asking for too much in Latin America. But at least they should meet some minimum requirements, without which those elections would not be considered legitimate. Today, I have also spoken out. I believe I not only have the right but the obligation to speak out if I feel that the letter and spirit of Esquipulas II are not being complied with.

[Reporter] I have a question for both President Arias and Vice President Quayle. You have had quite a few private meetings. I wonder if you could tell us if you have come up with any new ideas? [passage omitted]

[Arias] I am very pleased that we are discussing the future of democracy in the world, and particularly in this region. I believe we should feel satisfied that this is our main concern and the main topic in a discussion on Latin America. Latin America experienced a decade of dictatorships in the seventies, but democracy prevails in the eighties. We could easily return to a new decade of dictatorships in the nineties if the democracies are not successful in meeting their people's most urgent needs. That is why we are so concerned about the democracies being able to meet their people's aspirations and expectations. That is why we are worried over the future of democracy in this hemisphere. There are difficult situations in Chile, Brazil, Venezuela, Peru, and Central America. There are very few nations that have had economic success and have managed to improve living conditions in this decade. The cry for democracy and freedom is a cry no one can silence in this hemisphere or in any other part of the world, as we just saw in China. I am pleased we studied the future of democracy in Latin America.

Arias on Meeting With Quayle, Other Issues

PA1506034989 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Report by journalist Mario Carmona from the presidential house in San Jose—live]

[Text] The Central American and Panamanian situations and bilateral Costa Rican-U.S. programs were the main topics discussed during the Arias-Quayle meeting. U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, who toured the four democratic Central American nations, said he had found consensus among the region's presidents to support the Esquipulas II plan. He also made clear the idea that it is necessary to respect the Panamanian people's will, and that therefore Noriega must relinquish power.

Arias thanked Quayle for the aid that the United States had given our country in its efforts to overcome its underdevelopment. The two governments agreed that adequate conditions do not exist in Nicaragua to hold a democratic, honest, and equitable election in February.

In addition, President Arias denied that he had prepared a campaign against the Social Christian Unity Party [PUSC], as denounced by PUSC leader and presidential candidate Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier. Arias asserted that he has no clout in the U.S. Congress to make his will prevail.

We also report that Sandinist and Costa Rican authorities will meet in Sapoa on Thursday to stop the vandalism that has been unleashed along the border. Public Security Minister Hernan Garron Salazar said Nicaraguan territory cannot be used as a sanctuary for perpetrating crimes in our country.

We also report that Government Minister Antonio Alvarez Desanti has said that the massive arrival of Panamanians into our territory through the southern border is under control.

El Salvador

Reaction to Meetings With U.S. Vice President

CD Leader Makes Statement

PA1406232389 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Report on statement by Democratic Convergence leader Ruben Zamora following a meeting with U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle in San Salvador on 13 June—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Democratic Convergence [CD] members and U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle pledged to uphold respect for human rights in our country, defend social reforms, and back democratic opening, CD leaders said today following a meeting this afternoon with the U.S. vice president.

During the meeting with Vice President Quayle, both Guillermo Ungo and Ruben Zamora expressed their concern about the deterioration of respect for human rights in our country and the seriousness of the growing polarization. In that regard, the CD requested that the U.S. Government take part in efforts conducive to dialogue and a political solution to the current conflict. The leftist leaders made commitments on three main points:

[Zamora] "First, seeking a negotiated political solution for the conflict; second, defending and expanding the current political participation of both political and social organizations—including the defense of human rights; and third, defending the process of socioeconomic changes or socioeconomic reforms.

"Those were basically the matters we reviewed with the U.S. vice president. At the same time, we expressed our concern over the deterioration of human rights in our country. In that regard, we stressed the urgent need for a positive role by the U.S. Government concerning dialogue and political solutions."

Zamora said he sensed from the U.S. vice president his government's commitment toward the Salvadoran democratic process and its support for incorporating into political life the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN].

[Zamora, broadcast in progress] "...want political process to develop without interruption. Second, that the U.S. Government would like the FMLN to join in the country's political life. Third, we were also told that the U.S. Government is concerned about respect for human rights in El Salvador. Incidentally, this morning I received two requests from trade unions concerning two union members who were arrested—one of them yesterday and the other one today—which I conveyed to Vice President Quayle as requested by the unions. Vice President Quayle told me that they had already taken action in one of the cases, concerning last night's arrest."

The CD leader said that this was a good opportunty for the U.S. vice president to have a close look at the current Salvadoran crisis. He added that this was undoubtedly a positive step toward achieving a political solution to the current Salvadoran war.

FDR's Ungo Holds News Conference

PA1406223589 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1700 GMT 14 Jun 89

[News conference by opposition Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) President Guillermo Manuel Ungo with unidentified reporters in San Salvador on 14 Jun—recorded]

[Text] [Ungo] In our opinion, Quayle's visit is ambiguous because it has positive and negative aspects. On the negative side, it is a permanent expression of the U.S. interference and intervention; he comes here as a proconsul to observe and manipulate the terms of the relationship between the dominator and the dominated.

The visit also has positive aspects: While it represents political support and sponsorship to ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance], it is intended to make sure that the ARENA administration does not overstep the mark in certain aspects—an increase in human rights violations, the abolition of political opportunities, and the violation of political freedom—because it is not convenient for the U.S. Government's policy or for the Salvadoran people.

We also believe it is positive that he met with us because (?this implies) an acknowledgement of the need for more political activities and debates, more pluralism, less intolerance, and—in a certain way—a warning to ARENA not to overstep the mark, meaning the death squads.

[Words indistinct] the possibility of learning more through a dialogue with other opposition parties like ours and the Christian Democratic Party [PDC]. We know that he talked with PDC Secretary General [Fidel Chavez] Mena and with us, to hear our views and have a more realistic and, consequently, less erroneous idea about El Salvador.

Vice President Quayle fulfilled his goal, meaning he learned what type of relations or alliance we have with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN]. He had announced in Washington that he would ask us to ask the FMLN to incorporate itself into the political process in El Salvador and put down its weapons. Referring to this point, we told him that things were not so simple, because there was no real democracy in El Salvador and, consequently, this incorporation could not be a unilateral action. Instead, a negotiation process was necessary to attain a political solution.

Vice President Quayle discussed with Ruben Zamora and me three basic issues that are closely linked and are a cause for concern in the new administration. We believe that these issues will deteriorate more and more. First, concerning human rights and political opportunities, we believe that the prevailing mood and temperament in ARENA and the Army [corrects himself] the Armed Forces, is to enforce harsher guidelines—which we are already witnessing. This can lead to the abolition of political opportunities; we are seeing how things are more difficult and the risks are greater in certain areas.

Point two: In addition, the steps backward regarding the economy not only (?have to do) with steps backward in reform, but constitute an economic package in their own right. This package, which we can anticipate will be applied on a short-term basis, aggravates the conflict by increasing repression (?and causes) subversion and social unrest. The government is the principal agitator and subversive agent. In addition to the backward economic reform, the government (?intends to) establish several orthodox and strong economic measures—devaluation, higher interest and service rates, and taxes—all of which cause social explosions and unrest and, consequently, repression. This is linked to point one, which we explained to Vice President Quayle. There is also a tendency toward more numerous human rights violations and the closing of political openings.

Point three, dialogue for negotiation. We explained to him that, as a political party, (?we serve) the country the best way possible and that in doing this we coincide with other opposition parties. We want to fully acknowledge our constitutional responsibility and foster and create proper conditions for dialogue. [Words indistinct] with this, we want to help initiate a dialogue. We believe that the minister of the interior also has a role to play in this effort. [Ungo ends]

Ungo also said that the meeting with Quayle was held in a climate of cordiality and respect. Quayle reportedly recognized and supported Ungo's political activities, although the viewpoints of the two men differed. Concerning the antiterrorism bill that will be studied by the Legislative Assembly, Ungo said this will not help solve the conflict and that, if it is approved, it will serve to aggravate the situation of violence, as history has shown.

[Ungo] Generally speaking, laws that establish states of exception are temporary and usually applied by authoritarian and totalitarian regimes. In El Salvador, we have been living in a state of exception for more than 6 years. The suspension of personal rights has become permanent, but to no avail. The situation has become aggravated and the war has continued. The number of human rights violations increased. We believe repressive laws become subversive laws. Those who fan the fires of subversion even more have no one with whom to negotiate. Quite the opposite is true. The innocent pay for the guilty. This is particularly true at a time when a harsh economic policy that has created opposition and reaction will be applied.

Those who oppose the government's economic policy will become convinced that (?this is) a repressive law. We reject this government policy. ARENA has waited only a short time to do what it should never have done. Conversely, the government has failed to do other things that had to be done. [Ungo ends]

Concerning the employers' strike decreed by private enterprise yesterday, Ungo said that this is the second such strike in recent years. The first, staged against Jose Napoleon Duarte's government, was intended to destabilize the government and reject the so-called economic package.

PDC's Mena Comments

PA1406232989 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Report by Ernesto Rivas on statements by Fidel Chavez Mena, Christian Democratic Party (PDC) secretary general; date and place not given—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Rivas] Dr Fidel Chavez Mena was among those who met with the U.S. vice president on Tuesday, 13 June, during a visit to this country that lasted only 6 hours. Chavez said that they discussed the need to strengthen the democratic process and expand certain liberties, including freedom of speech. He added that

they also discussed the peace process, in which all political parties must play a major role, and the need to safeguard the reforms achieved during the presidency of Jose Napoleon Duarte:

[Chavez] "I underscored the evident need to ensure that the social reforms and technical changes that might be instituted do not set back the process of social reform. We also discussed the need for the opposition, in this case the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], to continue to strengthen the democratic system."

[Rivas] The PDC secretary general said that he pointed out to Quayle the imperative need to ensure that the economic programs of the new government benefit the most needy segments of the population. Chavez described Quayle's visit as timely.

[Chavez] "I would say that he is visiting for the reasons that he expressly mentioned in his speech during the luncheon with the press—the U.S. interest in strengthening democracy, freedom, peace, human rights, and the economic process in our country. I believe that his visit is appropriate. It is a step toward what all our people want; that is, to live in full democracy and freedom amid a social and economic atmosphere that benefits the poorest and neediest people in the country."

[Rivas] As for regional problems, Chavez said that the U.S. vice president is hopeful that the Nicaraguan process will be more flexible and move toward true democracy, and he regretted the trick played on the Panamanian people during the recent elections.

Rebel Radio on Quayle Visit

PA1506023989 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0024 GMT 15 Jun 89

[Station commentary]

[Text] U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle visited our country for the second time this year. The tour, in Quayle's own words, is part of the U.S. Administration's efforts to attain a Central American consensus against Nicaragua and against Panama Defense Forces Commander General [Manuel Antonio] Noriega. In addition, the vice president wanted to see the effect of his scoldings and warnings to ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance] and the Armed Forces during his previous visit.

Political circles in the capital commented that Quayle came to tighten the government's screws again because the new U.S. Administration faces a dilemma in the Salvadoran case. On one hand, the United States has to support the ARENA government counterinsurgency scheme; on the other hand, it is afraid that the ARENA policy will wreck a bipartisan policy concerning El Salvador.

The dilemma is reflected in Quayle's statements in our country. He stated his government's concern about the human rights situation, but he also stated its strong support for the ARENA government. This is a contradiction because the U.S. Administration can rest assured that, as usual, its dollars will become human rights violations. Where else can $1.5 million be spent every day by a government that has offered an overall war; a government that is led by a party whose leader is Roberto d'Aubuisson, founder and leader of the death squads; a government whose cabinet is made up of death squad members like Francisco Merino, Ramon Gonzalez Subillaga, Sigifrido Ochoa Perez, Humberto Figueroa, and others?

Nevertheless, the most significant event of the U.S. Vice President's second visit was his meeting with Democratic Convergence [CD] leaders Dr [Guillermo Manuel] Ungo and Dr [Ruben] Zamora. This is something new and significant, especially if we bear in mind that the Reagan administration had refused to issue visas so that Dr Ungo and Dr Zamora could enter the United States. U.S. Government spokesmen had described Dr Ungo and Dr Zamora as terrorists. It is not by mere chance that the U.S. press has described this meeting as the most important thing that Dan Quayle did during his visit to El Salvador.

Now then, why the meeting? The new U.S. Administration obviously has a pragmatic attitude compared to the previous U.S. Administration. Above all, the meeting took place because the Salvadoran people's tenacious struggle—expressed through the revolutionary war and the struggle waged by the people's organizations—has created an opportunity for the country's truly democratic and progressive forces. This is the basic reason for the meeting between Quayle and the CD leaders.

In sum, we can surmise the following from the U.S. Vice President's second visit:

1. ARENA's so-called nationalism is simply fast talk, because the Cristiani administration is as dependent on the United States as the Duarte administration was.

2. The people's struggle in all its forms has compelled the U.S. Government to heed the proposals of the country's truly democratic forces, represented by the CD.

If the new U.S. Administration really wants to help achieve a political solution in El Salvador, it must continue to be pragmatic. However, if its millions will continue to finance repression, its pragmatism will be exposed as a mere front and we will witness the continuation of Reagan's policy and, consequently, a heightening of the war.

Reaction to Assassination of Minister Porth

Vice President Comments

PA1406164389 San Salvador TCS Television in Spanish 1215 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Interview with Vice President Jose Francisco Merino by unidentified reporters; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] Mr Vice President, everyone has noticed the silence surrounding the assassination of Dr Jose Antonio Rodriguez Porth. There is speculation, of course, about who could have committed this terrible act. What do you know? What information do you have for the Salvadoran people this weekend?

[Merino] As I have said, investigations are being conducted. Technically, it is not prudent to comment on the investigation since it is ongoing; however, the president has said that the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] is directly responsible for this horrible action since the FMLN's dirty war clearly calls for the destabilization of the government through actions such as this. The FMLN wants the government to react violently and to provoke incidents that they can publicize abroad to make it appear that the government has no intention of working for peace and that, on the contrary, it resorts to violence.

We have known about this strategy for months. We believe that the FMLN is making a big mistake by believing that a government that achieved power thanks to the votes of a majority of the people is going to act foolishly. They think that they can manipulate us with their provocations. It is true that they have caused pain, but they will not be able to divert us from our goal of peace for all the Salvadoran people.

We are going to review the situation from a legal point of view. It has been said that our legal tools are not in line with the climate of violence that our country is experiencing, but our actions will always be taken within the law. We will, however, look into amending the law soon. In the meantime, we have to act based on the laws in effect now. The law clearly establishes the penalties for crimes such as this attack on a very distinguished, respected, and appreciated person, who in addition to being a member of the cabinet also earned a well-deserved place in the hearts of a majority of the Salvadoran people. He had a clean record of democratic struggle for the people.

[Reporter] You mentioned modifying legal tools. Of what would these modifications consist?

[Merino] Proposals have been made over the last few months regarding modernizing some laws dealing with criminal investigations to facilitate the implementation of justice without forcing those responsible for implementing justice to take serious risks. We have seen how justices have either resigned or become the victims of attacks when they conduct certain kinds of trials. We must create conditions that will protect those in charge of administering justice so they can do their jobs.

[Reporter] This morning we were informed of certain statements made by the Catholic Church and by the bishop of the Lutheran Church. These two churches believe that the government should not make any accusations until the investigations yield results. Dr Melardo Gomez [not further identified] has commented on a statement made by Rodriguez Porth's wife. She did not accuse anyone. She only said that regardless of what extremist group committed the crime, it was a regrettable and deplorable act. What makes you so sure that it was the FMLN?

[Merino] We do not know how many persons actually killed him. They are crazy people who do not think and who do not understand that they achieve nothing by carrying out such an action. The masterminds, however, are FMLN operatives. There is a cause of the violence our people are having to endure: the misnamed revolutionary struggle of the FMLN. The FMLN has broken social and legal norms and has committed crimes that have shocked the Salvadoran people. The FMLN can be safely blamed as the party responsible for all the violence and bloodshed. No one is saying it was this or that person who committed the crime, but we can blame the FMLN as a movement or institution.

There are contradictions. We have called for careful consideration in this case. When known leftist, subversive, and terrorist elements have been killed in the past, many people immediately began shouting that the death squads, the public security forces, the Salvadoran Army, or the government did it. No one denounces the people who make these speculative charges, so why now with the assassination of Rodriguez Porth are these same people calling for calm and good sense to prevail?

[Reporter] Our country is definitely enduring a violent era, and often fanatics act without any direct order from group leaders. Some fanatics act on their own. On Friday we sought reactions from political groups such as the Social Christian Peoples Movement, the Revolutionary National Movement, and the Nationalist Democratic Movement. These groups are concerned about the effect this assassination could have on their participation in national politics. Do you think this assassination could produce a situation that would force the leaders of these groups to leave the country again?

[Merino] This action was part of the FMLN's grand plan. The FMLN has plans to attack people linked to the government so they can take action later against leftist elements to make it appear that the government is taking revenge and to create the idea that there is infighting within Salvadoran society. We have known about this for months. It is foolish of them to believe that we will act without thinking.

It is the FMLN that at any moment could act against political, labor, and even terrorist leaders in an effort to put the spotlight on a dirty war in which, according to them, the government participates.

[Reporter] So you would attribute any future attack on any opposition leader to the FMLN?

[Merino] Definitely. The government has clearly maintained its position within the framework of the law and its decision to bring to justice the people committing these crimes. This is clear. The media and anyone wanting to know about it has access to this information. The FMLN has changed its policy. Up to last year it would claim responsibility for any action carried out by that organization, but since January of this year the FMLN members no longer claim responsibility for anything they do, hoping that there will be confusion and that the finger will be pointed at other sectors. But the actions that are taking place are typical FMLN actions and follow traditional FMLN patterns.

[Reporter] Mr Vice President, you have rejected the possibility that Rodriguez Porth could have been murdered by extreme right-wing fanatics, as some opposition spokesmen have said.

[Merino] I have clearly said that I do not know of any extreme right-wing group using violence in the country. Perhaps this notion has been promoted by the FMLN leaders to justify their actions. The democratic process in this country encompasses many groups of various ideological persuasions, a broad range of ideologies. The FMLN has remained out of this process. It has chosen not to join democratic life, and, in this regard, it is the only extremist force that uses violence to attain power.

[Reporter] What has been the reaction of other governments to the assassination of Rodriguez Porth?

[Merino] This assassination has received worldwide condemnation. We have received messages of support and condolences for the Rodriguez Porth family and for the Salvadoran Government from many governments that cannot understand why this type of action takes place in a country that lives in a democratic atmosphere, where there is freedom of speech and movement. These liberties should be more than enough to convince anyone to set violence aside.

[Reporter] Mr Merino, much has been said about how sad and tragic it is to see crimes like this happen. A prominent member of the government and of the Nationalist Republican Alliance has been assassinated. Some say the FMLN did it; others have different opinions. Thousands of Salvadorans have died in these 10 years of war and all human lives have the same value, a value that cannot be estimated. Many people have died at the hands of this or that side, and this situation is forging the idea that this conflict must end as soon as possible. If the FMLN carried it out, this crime could represent some sort of pressure, and there is the thought that the government will have to seek mechanisms to end this situation, which is one of the promises President Cristiani made during his campaign.

As you see the situation now, what is the most feasible way for ending the war?

[Merino] The president has clearly stated the guidelines for searching for peace. These guidelines lead us to react calmly and carefully even though we have been sensibly hurt.

We realize many Salvadorans have died during the 10 years the people have been victims of attacks by Marxist-Leninist forces. This is pain that hurts all the people, who are demanding that their government seek calm actions that may lead to peace.

The dialogue doors are open, and we are prepared for direct meetings and to study mechanisms to incorporate back into society those who have rejected a peaceful life and society. This could lead to a firm and lasting peace in El Salvador.

This is an effort that has failed on several occasions in the past because there was politicking and because the effort was only bilateral. This is no longer a problem between a political group and an armed group, or between the government and an armed group. All Salvadoran people should participate in producing the mechanisms to secure the rebels' incorporation into society. The people should tell the rebels: Gentlemen, abandon your weapons and join us, because the people are the victims of this conflict.

[Reporter] You have said the doors to a dialogue are open. President Cristiani said in his speech on 9 June he is ratifying every promise he made in his 1 June speech. However, Msgr Rivera y Damas has said there is a time for dialogue, but that this is not a suitable moment. To what extent do you think the killing of Rodriguez Porth could delay the initiation of the dialogue?

[Merino] In its latest message, the FMLN clearly rejected the dialogue. It had been using the dialogue strategically to create problems for the government, especially the past administration. But now that the FMLN sees the government has a serious and responsible position, they are off balance. Now they have issued a communique saying they do not want to talk with the government but with private enterprise. They are avoiding responsibilities and the opportunity to find mechanisms for their incorporation.

The government, in spite of situations such as this shocking crime, is acting based on what the people want, and officials must be aware of the role they must play.

One thing is what we as human beings feel, and another is the responsibility we as public officials have to stay within the framework of the guidelines the president has publicly announced.

[Reporter] If the FMLN is rejecting the dialogue and if Colonel Ochoa says that if the FMLN wants fire it is going to get fire—as we have heard him say—then we will have in the near future a change in military strategies and a worsening of the war.

[Merino] We should not get ideas confused. The head of the government is the president. Statements from any other person on what the government will do have no authority and do not correspond to what the government will actually do.

[Reporter] You know this type of statement hurts the Cristiani administration abroad.

[Merino] There have been passionate moments, and statements of this nature can be used abroad to say the government does not have a clear and definite position. However, this type of situation occurs when we are caught by surprise. For example, who would think before 9 June that a 73-year-old man would become the victim of a cowardly attack? Rodriguez Porth had been practically retired from political and social activities because he had the necessary merits and success to enjoy a rest. However, encouraged by hopes that a new government could pull the country out of the crisis, he accepted a very important position next to the president. He was ready to strengthen our work with his experience and knowledge. The attack on him was cowardly because he was not accompanied by armed guards, and he was not armed. A man his age could not even resist such an attack. Because of this, the attack provoked general indignation. Thousands of statements have been made on this crime. Attention has been paid to one or two only, perhaps, but there was general national indignation, including people who did not know Rodriguez Porth personally but who knew how important and valuable this Presidency minister was. His death cause me and the government much pain.

[Reporter] Mr Vice President, how has this assassination affected the members of the new cabinet? There are many people there who have no political experience, people who have left their jobs to cooperate with this government. We understand that some of them are nervous.

[Merino] I believe when a person accepts a public post, he also accepts the inconveniences that may emerge.

There is a patriotic element to being a member of the legislative branch; I would say that element exists for all members of the branch and for individuals in other positions, inasmuch as our national reality demands sacrifice and a contribution from those of us who believe we can solve the problem. The government, meanwhile, must issue instructions to prevent future regrettable incidents.

Of course it is impossible to armor people or really guarantee that nothing will happen, but the government must behave in a manner that will avoid or prevent other people from being victimized in attacks such as these.

I would say, however, there is a certain firmness and eagerness among the cabinet members; they want to remain on their jobs and make national respect a reality. They are very optimistic despite the serious deterioration and looting that has taken place at many government institutions, and they must make this known.

[Reporter] Will security measures for government officials change as a result of the 9 June incident?

[Merino] No substantial changes have been made. The government has implemented preventive measures, but all government officials should be aware that although prior to taking their current posts they may not have been very active within their political parties, they are not exempt from being targeted, because they are now in public office and, as happened in the Rodriguez case, they could also be victimized. However, if they observe precautionary measures and are aware that it is better to be safe than sorry, we will surely succeed.

[Reporter] Mr Merino, a few months ago it was revealed that when the Christian Democrats were in power they made a pact with the FMLN whereby the FMLN would not attack government officials or their relatives. If the FMLN offered you a similar proposal during a dialogue, would you be willing to sign it?

[Merino] I believe that would constitute foul play; it would be equal to making deals behind the people's backs. It would not be fair for those of us holding government posts with guaranteed incomes to have the additional comfort of knowing that, because of a pact, we can safely be at our homes or offices while the majority of the people are victims of economic and social problems, unemployment, and violence, and must go about in fear.

This government certainly will not accept that sort of proposal. Without delving into details about previous governments, I can say this government is composed of principled people, and it would not be fair, loyal, or advantageous to make that type of arrangement.

During the dialogue in Huastepec, I got a firsthand view of these people and was able to assess their mental state. They do not respect human life. Their only goal is to achieve power through armed struggle, be it a direct military takeover or through a negotiation. They are not capable of thinking otherwise. They have no respect for

human beings, whether they are men or women, young or old. Using this real situation as a starting point, this government should be aware of what it can accomplish through its actions.

The people are increasingly aware that the FMLN leaders do not really want to do anything that would favor the people. All their aggressions and attacks—if we review them case by case—directly or indirectly affect the country's poorest, most needy people. This government must express solidarity with the people and must confront and face the same risks the people face.

[Reporter] If you feel this way and you are the vice president, how do you expect to achieve harmony with people who are so far removed from your framework of reference?

This is why I have pointed out that all proposals should result from a national consensus. The national peace and liberty proposal that ARENA has been proposing for many years seeks an understanding between the political, labor, and economic forces so we can draft a document representing the people's will. Should the government respect this document, which contemplates measures to make it easier for these groups to join the country's normal life, it would be because it is the people who would have drafted it. This is our duty. The Constitution stipulates the duty to reach and maintain peace and social harmony. This is a mandate, and we have to work for this mandate to be effective.

[Reporter] Regarding the attack against your home, you mentioned a few moments ago the formation of an intelligence and information organization. Certain labor union leaders have harshly criticized these measures. It has been said such an organization would work in parallel with the government. Please explain to us what you meant and whether this paramilitary system is being formed or not.

[Merino] I think my words were misconstrued. It is evident that the Armed Forces require the use of some kind of intelligence when dealing with similar attacks against the Salvadoran people. This intelligence is equivalent to information. The Armed Forces will obtain this information not only from members in uniform but directly from the people, who are tired of this violence and who can prevent similar situations with a telephone call or a written report. For instance, you observed the large amount of arms discovered near the San Carlos garrison. If these arms had been used at the time of the attack, there surely would have been many casualties, all of them civilians. This arms cache was located in a well-populated area. There must have been strange and suspicious activities. Any neighbor could have observed what was going on for a long time. The warning of some residents could have alerted the authorities, and this plan could have been thwarted in time. Consequently, when we speak of an intelligence network, we are not speaking of a new or paramilitary organization to combat the FMLN. The Armed Forces require all possible support. According to the Constitution, the Armed Forces are in charge of defending the Salvadoran people. If the Armed Forces defend us, we must cooperate with them—not with military actions, of course, because this is not our area of action, but by supplying intelligence information, which they require to be more efficient.

[Reporter] Will the government try to create in the population an awareness of their duty to report any irregular activities?

[Merino] Of course; this is nothing new. Let us remember a slogan on which a lot of money was spent in the previous government: Together, people and Armed Forces. This slogan means just what I have explained, although maybe it was not explained this way. The idea is to have the population participate in the effort to achieve peace. By preventing actions, we also prevent casualties. The FMLN attacks with the advantage of surprise. They do not operate if they do not get these advantages. To confirm this, let us observe what has happened when the university and certain and well-known pro-FMLN labor unions were surrounded by the Armed Forces: No bombs exploded in San Salvador. But if these areas, which serve as a cover for terrorists, are neglected, bombs immediately begin to appear and explode, power outages occur, and telephone lines are cut. So it is obvious there must be a joint exercise to overcome these problems.

[Reporter] It has been said a peace and social reorganization process takes a great many years. Although the people tire, the two greatest points of interest for them are the war and the economic situation. As for the war, things appear unlikely to come to a head. Still the people hope that as the government settles down, the situation will gradually lead to talks with the FMLN. [passage omitted]

Porth's Widow Blames 'Extremists'

PA1506032489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2314 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] San Salvador, 14 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Ana Maria de Rodriguez, widow of Antonio Rodriguez Porth, minister of the Presidency who was killed last Friday, today accused guerrillas or the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) of being responsible for the killing of her husband.

Ana Maria de Rodriguez, in statements to local television, denied that she accused the extreme rightists of perpetrating the killing of Rodriguez Porth, minister of the Presidency.

Last Friday, three unidentified persons killed Rodriguez Porth, a trusted advisor of President Alfredo Cristiani and founder and ideologist of the ruling rightist Nationalist Republican Alliance Party (ARENA).

Thus far no organization has claimed credit for the killing, although the government has blamed urban guerrillas of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN).

Based on statements made by Ana Maria immediately after her husband's death last Friday, leftist politicians tried to interpret the killing of Rodriguez Porth as having been carried out by leftist guerrillas or extreme rightists.

The slain minister's widow flatly denied today that she had accused the extreme rightists and said that she was referring to "the extreme of the PDC," the party that left power on 1 June when Cristiani was inaugurated as the new president.

The widow claims that her husband's killing was perpetrated by the leftist FMLN or by extremists not of the right "but of another extreme, who were in the PDC government."

"This extreme was made up of PDC members and military linked with the FMLN who are still in the Army," she said.

U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, who made a 7-hour visit to El Salvador yesterday, visited Ana Maria to extend condolences on behalf of President George Bush.

Rodriguez' widow said that during Quayle's visit she gave him her version about who she believes killed her husband.

Rebels Report Execution of 'Death Squad Member'

PA1506020289 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 2356 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] We draw the attention of national and international public opinion, humanitarian organizations, and Salvadoran people to the following report. We want to report an act of people's justice.

On 12 June at 1700 hours, guerrilla units executed death squad member David Echegoyen. [Words indistinct] were distributed to the civilian population in El Transito canton, Santa Maria, La Paz Department. Our units proceeded with this measure of faith, of [word indistinct] in El Transito canton, San Antonio, and San Luis, to ensure justice.

This individual, David Echegoyen, was part of an enemy intelligence network and was also directly responsible for the death of several civilians. He sowed terror and threatened the population of the cantons mentioned previously. However, he will not be able to do so anymore. This is what the people's justice is like—implacable and firm. We tell all death squad members that we will not give them any quarter, but will totally eliminate them. We say this especially to the members of the Ochoa Perez, D'Aubuisson, Cristiani, and Merino Valdivieso squad members. None of the death squad members will go unpunished. The people's justice will be meted out to all of them.

FMLN Claims 2 Army Helicopters Damaged

PA1506035289

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0008 GMT on 15 June carries approximately 5 minutes of reports on Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] guerrilla clashes with Salvadoran Army units.

The first report says that "at 0630 on 14 June, two soldiers were wounded by mines in Finca El Porvenir, Cerro El Tigre, Jucuapa Jurisdiction," and "a transport helicopter arrived at 0730 to help the troops." The report adds that "the helicopter flew in at a low altitude" and "an accurate round" from rebel antiaircraft units "opened a huge hole in the aircraft's fuselage." In addition, it says that "at 0930, two helicopter gunships and one transport helicopter arrived in another attempt to evacuate the troops," but the rebel units "again opened fire and hit another helicopter, thus frustrating the evacuation mission."

Another report says that "at 0300 on Wednesday, 14 June" guerrilla units attacked a platoon of the "5th Infantry Brigade's Jiboa Battalion in Llano El Espinal, San Juan de Merino Jurisdiction, Santa Clara," killing 1 soldier and wounding 12 others. The station adds that "the other soldiers fled in disarray, leaving behind rifles and material destroyed" by the rebels' explosive devices.

The radio reports that "at 0600 on Wednesday, 14 June," the rebels used "rifles and grenade launchers to ambush a Cavalry Regiment convoy of four armored personnel carriers on the Pan-American Highway, near the village of El Sitio, Apastepeque Jurisdiction, San Vicente Department." The report indicates that the clash "lasted 1 hour" and the rebels killed two soldiers, wounded six, and destroyed one armored personnel carrier."

The station also says that FMLN forces "again attacked the overwhelmed paramilitary forces in the town of El Ahogado, Canton La Isla, Metapan Jurisdiction" and "inflicted two casualties on the enemy."

The final report says that "at 1145 on Tuesday, 13 June," the FMLN attacked "Atonal Battalion troops in San Agustin, Usulutan Department, and inflicted two casualties."

Guatemala

Cerezo Communique Supports Panamanian Opposition

PA1406161489 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1530 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Guatemala City, 14 Jun (DPA)—President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo stated today through a Presidency press communique that the Guatemalan Government supports the Panamanian opposition but rejects an intervention or any de facto measures.

Cerezo's statement was issued in view of the 12 June visit by U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, who said General Manuel Antonio Noriega, chief of the Panama Defense Forces, should leave Panama because "time is running out..."

The Guatemalan president added: "We are not going to take any de facto measures but will do everything within the political and legal framework." He emphasized: "It is the duty of any democratic government to support an opposition that won elections and has the right to rule."

He mentioned that Guatemala is participating in actions through the OAS, "seeking an opportunity for internal negotiations but without violating the sovereignty of that nation."

He concluded by noting that, during his talks with Quayle, they discussed Panama's internal problem but did not talk about bilateral problems between the United States and Panama concerning the canal. Cerezo stated: "Regarding this, Guatemala recognizes and supports the rights that the Panamanian people have under the existing treaties."

Editorial Examines U.S. Intentions in Panama

PA1506024389 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 13 Jun 89 p 9

[Editorial: "Noriega Is Running Out of Time"]

[Text] U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle's visit to the presidents of Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Costa Rica can be seen from two perspectives. First, the visit could be seen as evidence of President Bush's trust and support of the Central American "democracies." Second, it could be seen as a prelude to armed intervention in Panama to oust Panama Defense Forces Commander Manuel Noriega.

Sincerely, both the statements given by Quayle himself and those rendered by Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo point toward the second hypothesis. Our logic also leads us to the same conclusion, as it is not likely that the U.S. Government wants to express its support to the Azcona and Arias governments, which are about to leave power. In this sense, the visit of support would only be justified in the cases of Cristiani, who recently took power, and Cerezo, who is still frightened about the 9 May attempted coup.

Without forgetting that U.S. geopolitical interests in our region are vital to its own security, we need to center our attention on Quayle's statements in Guatemala (which are the same as those expressed in the other countries he visited). "Central America has a lot to win if Noriega leaves power and a lot to lose if he stays. Thus, it is necessary to direct pertinent actions so that the people's vote is respected and not left asunder in elections so fradulent that they had to be annulled." What are these pertinent actions? Could it be a request for support, as in the case of Grenada? The presence of the Guatemalan defense minister and foreign minister (who is also a member of the OAS negotiating commission in the Panamanian case) at the meeting in Guatemala City leads us to this conclusion.

The person who gave us more reasons to fear actions against the Noriega regime was Quayle himself, especially when he stated: "Up to now, the United States has only used diplomatic channels to find a solution to the Central American crisis and has rejected the use of military means." Although his words referred to the crisis in the region in general, it is obvious that the two "hot" spots are Nicaragua and Panama. It is evident that the center of attention was Panama, since Nicaragua was only mentioned within the context of compliance with the Esquipulas agreements, and then only very superficially. Quayle was even more specific when he stated that "Noriega is running out of time and if the OAS mission fails to attain its goal, there are all sorts of plans, formulas, and solutions to the problem presently bring endured by the country with the canal." What did Quayle mean by "Noriega is running out of time?" For starters, the Torrijos-Carter treaties determine that on 1 July 1989, the Panamanian Government must designate a Panamanian citizen as canal administrator, and he is to assume his post on 1 January 1990. Also, the OAS commission is to render its report to the general assembly on 19 July; we dare say today that their efforts have resulted in a complete failure. Furthermore, the person elected to the Panamanian Presidency must be installed by 1 September 1989. As the elections were annulled, there is no elected president and a government junta must take power. However, a government junta is not specified in the Constitution and would thus be technically equivalent to a coup d'etat. Quayle was categorical in stating the U.S. demands: "Noriega must leave the government and Panamanian territory." Is there still any doubt about the U.S. Government's intentions? Time will tell.

URNG Discusses Current Political Situation

PA1106000789 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 8 Jun 89 p 3

["Political Statement" issued by the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG) in Guatemala on 1 June]

[Text] The Guatemalan political situation has worsened considerably. The 9 May coup attempt demonstrated the regime's decay, increased internal dissension, rifts in the Armed Forces, and decisive U.S. Embassy intervention. Because of the extent of infighting within the regime's centers of power, no one questions the counterinsurgency's intention to stop the regime's decay and to prevent its downfall. What is at stake is control over power.

The 9 May coup attempt had greater effects than last year's attempted coup. There are more pressures now to force the government and the military to grant new concessions.

The coup instigators had several advantages: the government's general deterioration; the prevailing political climate; a high degree of intimidation; public challenges; and a tactical, coherent plan. The coup instigators made a political statement on the seriousness of the national crisis. With the intention of sowing chaos and arousing expectations among the people, they demagogically presented a plan to the country "to save Guatemala from political, social, and economic anarchy."

The coup instigators promoted the uprising and demoralization among Army ranks, which is the result of many arbitrary actions and an increasing deterioration within the institution. They promoted discontent and frustration within Army ranks over the incompetent way in which the Army is conducting the war, they promoted the defeat of the "national stability" counterinsurgency plan, and indirectly caused the various military defeats resulting from clashes with the URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity], especially in the last 3 years.

FAG [Guatemalan Air Force] participation in the coup attempt shows its discontent over the increasing danger its units face in confronting guerrilla forces under the difficult circumstances and adverse conditions characterizing their war efforts. The FAG's involvement in the coup attempt changes the composition of the Armed Forces' internal balance of forces.

In general, the number and ranks of the officers involved in the coup attempt is higher than those of last year's coup attempt. The uprising, was bloodless, however, and not a single shot was fired. At the end, a deal was made. Although that deal was very clear to everyone, Cerezo and [Guatemalan Defense Minister General Hector] Gramajo tried to emerge from the coup attempt as winners, both locally and internationally.

In view of the government's failure, and amid the serious political crisis, coup d'etats have become a means of imposing on the government standards for political behavior and guidelines for state administration. Under these conditions, the president's influence on the national scene has diminished and he is seen to have neither authority nor prestige.

Cerezo and Gramajo are lucky that although the government's and the Christian Democracy's plans no longer have any chance of solving the national crisis, that is in fact a lesser evil than the specter of an outright military dictatorship.

The 9 May coup attempt also proved that the government is increasingly dependent on the United States, whose embassy in Guatemala served as a mediator and arbiter during the crisis.

The U.S. strategy for the region calls for resisting coups. No changes in government can take place—neither in Guatemala nor in other countries where the United States is an unquestionable center of power—without U.S. approval and consent.

The increasing covert U.S. intervention in Guatemala has been registered in military circles. The United States supports the Army's efforts to improve its tactical abilities and strategies. The United States serves as mediator and interferes to redress the deepening rift within the Armed Forces.

Despite that, military discontent is growing, while the guerrilla movement improves militarily, the peoples movement is growing, the democratic movement is making progress, and the economic crisis is worsening. Meanwhile, instead of finding solutions to the crisis, the government increases its internal deterioration, corruption, nepotism, and division. Those factors foster coups and encourage disaffected sectors to seek other ways to carry out the counterinsurgency plan. Those sectors are attempting to impose a more rigid and conservative government.

We must add that to create a favorable image locally and abroad, the regime has portrayed a false version of reality by denying the internal war. That prompts various political, military, and economic disagreements and confrontations in view of the ever-increasing war, which encompasses more territory each day. That false version of reality is the reason why, for example, Army members do not admit their defeats, their logistical deficiencies, privations, and many desertions.

The Army's military failures have led to much division within its ranks and to quarreling over positions. This situation has not been resolved, despite the 9 May negotiations. The coupists obtained a series of concessions, mostly directed toward obstructing the national dialogue and hindering participation in the people's movement and in opposition groups such as the RUOG [United Representation of the Guatemalan Opposition]. This group has been the target of threats and attacks, which has made it impossible for the RUOG to fulfill its goals. The coupists are interested in interrupting and limiting the national dialogue to prevent it from becoming a forum where people can express their demands.

An escalation in repression against rural and city groups, intimidation of humanitarian, progressive, and other institutions, and administrative maneuverings, pressures, and dismissals are all deliberately designed to do away with an already reduced number of current

options. To give in even further to U.S. Government strategy, the coupists are trying to find ways to hide their total rejection of the so-called active neutrality policy.

Reality has shown that no counterinsurgency formula can resolve the disastrous situation affecting our country or provide a solution to the armed conflict. Furthermore, it is not the way to build a democracy. Historically, the coups d'etat staged in our country have only served to establish terrorist and highly repressive military dictatorships. A coup d'etat will not help Guatemala begin to build the democracy it so badly needs.

The only solution is a democratic and revolutionary people's alternative which brings forth the consensus of all Guatemalans, who need and want a free and dignified homeland. This alternative will come about through a broad and vigorous process, with the participation of all social, productive, patriotic, and nationalistic groups and forces.

The URNG General Command takes this opportunity to urge all military men who are neither committed to the progovernment forces nor to the ultra right-wing coupists, as well as people's groups, religious groups, political parties, social forces, and progressive and patriotic people to join our process to form a model of democracy based on independence and social justice and without repression, terror, or counterinsurgency. We will thus alienate the progovernment forces and the coupists and defeat their undemocratic policies against the people.

The URNG is not fighting the military as such. History teaches us that many of the democratic and revolutionary figures we highly value came from the Army. Colonel Jacobo Arbenz [former Guatemalan president] has a place in history. Lieutenants Luis Augusto Turcios Lima, Luis Trejo Esquivel, Marco Antonio Yon Sosa, and Rodolfo Chacon, together with Captain Alejandro de Leon and Colonel Augusto Loarca, all founded the revolutionary guerrilla movement. We believe that there are soldiers in the Army right now who have enough of a conscience to realize that we cannot build the future with counterinsurgent actions, repression, and injustice. Anyone convinced of this fact can and should participate in the building of a democracy.

All of us—those in the military who do not think of war as a business, workers, peasants, Indians, mestizos, students, intellectuals, and the people's productive, religious, progressive, and nationalistic groups—now have a great opportunity to face the forces opposed to independence and to Guatemala's social, political, and economic development. We now have the chance to confront those opposed to building a new, free, sovereign, democratic, prosperous, and dignified Guatemala—a Guatemala adapted to the international community's most advanced forms of development.

In light of the current situation, the URNG General Command urges all social, political, and productive groups to increase their planning and to continue to demand the immediate fulfillment of their demands and acknowledgment of their rights. We urge them to keep waging their struggle and to keep holding multilateral or bilateral dialogues so that, day by day, we can build the path toward a democratic alternative, representing the greatest aspirations of all segments of Guatemalan society. We cannot turn back on this ongoing struggle, which has cost thousands of Guatemalans their blood and sacrifice. Together with the people, we will continue to fight and to advance toward the conquest of democracy, facing political maneuvers and counterinsurgency measures of all sorts in order to find a political solution to the domestic conflict and to attain peace and democracy.

URNG General Command
Commander Rolando Moran
Commander Pablo Monsanto
Commander Gaspar Ilom
Carlos Gonzalez, secretary general of the PGT [Guatemalan Labor Party]
Guatemala, 1 June 1989

* Raquel Blandon Initiates Presidential Campaign

32480138f Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 25 Apr 89 p 3

[Text] Raquel Blandon Cerezo, the president's wife, has decided to begin speechmaking in order to challenge her rivals, Alfonso Cabrera Hidalgo and Rene de Leon Schlotter, for the Christian Democratic presidential nomination, adding a new factor to the contest.

Previously, "El Delfin" and "El Patriarca" had practically monopolized the race. One of the consequences of the fight is the emergence of a split between the rank and file of the official party and practices characterizing the dirty campaign.

Mrs Cerezo organized a political meeting in Central Square to launch her campaign and several of her followers did a kind of survey, distributing passes bearing pictures of the three precandidates in order to evaluate acceptance of hers.

The candidate referred to the significance of the primary elections and, as her internal rivals have stated, said she wished to maintain party unity. These observations clashed with the statement by Catalina Soberanis, deputy general secretary, who agreed there was a split.

Observers believe it will be very difficult to resolve the problem of the emergence of splits in the party structure, inasmuch as the interests of the most belligerant among them, Rene de Leon Schlotter and Alfonso Cabrera Hidalgo, are totally opposite and obey different orientations.

* Cerezo Says Violence Threatens Democracy

32480138c Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 19 Apr 89 p 3; 20 Apr 89 p 15

[Radio and television speech by President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo; date not given]

[19 Apr 89, p 3]

[Text] In a speech broadcast by the country's radio and television networks, President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo issued an appeal to the nation to launch a veritable crusade against violence and uncontrolled crime.

The following is the first part of the president's message:

My fellow Guatemalans:

It has been some time since I have spoken with you about democracy, about what is happening in Guatemala, the problems we have to face together in order to move forward and solve them and the work we have always done together, as a result of which we have been successful during the last 3 years of this democratic government.

I want to talk to you about democracy because I have the impression that democracy is now in danger, not just because someone might be trying to destabilize the government by a coup d'etat. This may or may not be so. Some foreign invader could be trying to remove this government and control us from the outside. However, democracy is in danger because it is beginning to be threatened by many of the persons living within its very framework.

I have engaged in a series of talks with all sectors. I have met with trade union groups, organized people's groups, private enterprise and prominent persons fromn that sector. I have met with technicians, professional persons, friends of the government's cabinet, and everyone, absolutely everyone, has expressed a general fear that democracy is in danger because of a tendency on the part of some groups and persons to constantly violate the law.

A few days ago, I stated that I was beginning to lose patience with crime, with those persons who do not understand what freedom is, what it means to exercise rights within certain limits, those limits being defined as the rights of others. I said I was beginning to lose patience because there are small groups in Guatemala that abuse the tolerance and patience of the government, of a democratic government, and that naturally take advantage of the positive attitude we Guatemalans have had. We have all recently become aware of increasing violence in Guatemala, particularly in urban areas. We know that some groups have set bombs trying to destabilize the atmosphere, that there have been persons who have committed extremely serious murders such as that of an attorney, a judge in the judicial system of Guatemala. There have been extremely serious problems of constant attacks. We have heard of attacks on honest families, learned they have been threatened with reprisals by gangs of criminals if they report such acts to the courts. We have also realized that some persons have taken advantage of the initials of clandestine organizations to threaten their enemies, try to win over persons competing legally within them and even threaten public officials. There have been murders concealed behind this type of organization. Such acts, these criminal events, this constantly escalating attitude of violation of the law, combine to threaten democracy.

We constantly run the risk that the same groups that try to destabilize the atmosphere and provoke a feeling of unrest, incredulity and loss of faith in democracy subsequently try to justify the breakup of democracy by this climate of tension and fear which they themselves have created.

I therefore wish to explain what I think is now happening. There are many causes of the feeling of unrest and lack of security in the country. On the one hand, there do indeed exist groups of the reactionary right that are not content with democracy. They do not want us Guatemalans to be content, for us to find more sources of jobs. They do not want us to be satisfied with a democratic government, for peasants to have increasing access to the economic life of the country, for more and more workers daily to have the possibility of increasing and improving their wages because such constant improvements in sources of satisfaction for the Guatemalan population attracts them more and more to democratic life.

Democratic life causes peoples to vote for democratic parties functioning under any banner or ideology. Traditional groups will never again be able to regain what they have lost through the ballot box, election participation or democratic life.

These small traditional groups still try to create instability, a feeling of unrest. They invented the famous "J and J." They invented the threats to trade union leaders. They invented threats to officials for the purpose of making the people feel that democracy means instability and insecurity, that we should return to the past.

There are also other causes of insecurity and violence because these small groups cannot do more than frighten us and cause instability. The government can control them if it has the cooperation and trust of the people of Guatemala. Concerning these small groups, the traditional groups that will win no elections and that consequently want to break down the institutional system, causing a lack of tranquillity among the people, or win over members of government security organizations so as to cause such instability: These groups will fail if we Guatemalans maintain trust in the democratic government, reject the feeling of instability and back the government's actions in order to have a climate of political openness, freedom, and security. But other things are also happening. It is incredible, but many persons who commit criminal acts at the present time are

trying to take advantage of the climate of legality existing in the country to commit criminal acts, attacking homes and individuals, stealing cars, trying to instigate violence in their own behalf, even stealing from institutions and staffs, harming workers for their own benefit. This group of criminals has recently grown with a number of migratory factions from other Central American countries experiencing problems at home. Most of these people are certainly honest, but among them are persons committing criminal acts because they are accustomed to violence and have no other way of life. These criminal acts and the persons who are violating the most important right to peace and life of Guatemalans, which must be guaranteed by the government in accordance with the constitution, are also endangering democracy.

All of these persons are beginning to annoy and provoke me because they believe that democratic governments do not have the capacity, energy, or strength to face up to criminal acts. I have firmly resolved to challenge them and show that democratic governments do have the ability to halt criminal acts and provide the necessary security for all citizens of Guatemala.

But there are also other things that create an impression of instability and violation of the law: certain media's lack of respect for the president and government institutions. We have talked with members and directors of those media and we are arriving at the conclusion that freedom of the press, freedom of participation and freedom of opinion must not consist of a constant violation of the dignity of institutions, democracy, the constitution and, in particular, officials directly elected by the people. We are talking with them and we do not intend to place any limitations on freedom of thought, but we must come to an agreement with all institutions so that abuses of such rights do not turn into acts that endanger democracy.

Acts which are dangerous and which threaten the stability of democracy are those aimed at committing abuses of the right to organize and petition the government, rights established by the constitution: illegal strikes, for example, the fact that a person working at a hospital and claiming a legitimate right or wage increase might endanger the lives of Guatemalans. These are acts that endanger democracy. For that reason, every time we want to exercise a right, we must systematically realize that the exercise of a right contains a limitation and involves our obligation as Guatemalans to provide services and security, to be with them constantly and solve their problems, because a satisfied nation allows trust in democracy to continue.

All of these acts which endanger the state of law, confidence before the law, security of the citizens, endanger democracy and force the government, which has been bent on creating a climate of freedom, tolerance, and respect for all citizens, a climate in which we must all participate to solve the country's economic problems force the government and a respectful president to act firmly in defense of democracy.

[20 Apr 89, p 15]

[Text] Speaking on radio and television, President Marco Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo appealed to the nation to undertake a veritable crusade against violence and uncontrolled crime.

The following is the second part of the president's message:

I want to tell you today that recent incidents have worn out the president's patience. The law exists, institutions exist to apply it, and agencies exist to enforce it. I wish to tell you that the democratic government has and will have the capacity to maintain security, peace, and stability in the country for the benefit of the majority of this country's honest, law-abiding citizens, but everyone must cooperate with us. We cannot continue to alter the facts. For example, officials are debating at this very moment whether or not the Pavon problem involved the violation of human rights. I assume it did. The investigations we have been conducting indicate that some officials did not exercise their responsibilities correctly and may have mistreated some of the prisoners condemned to long prison sentences for past criminal acts. But we cannot forget that what happened at Pavon was a criminal act caused by criminals condemned by our nation's courts. We cannot justify and, based on accusations aimed at officials who may have been irresponsible, conceal the criminal act of trying to provoke a mass escape of Pavon prisoners, killing the guards and murdering persons doing their duty.

It is true that there were problems that had to be corrected, that the violation of human rights must be corrected, but there is no worse violation of human rights than acts committed by individuals trying to cause a mass escape from Pavon. Such persons must be punished to the full extent of the law. We have had to draw up a number of regulations governing how prisoners are cared for and treated, in accordance with the constitution. For example, there is the matter of visits by relatives. The individuals in question abuse their rights, which is an example of something that a democratic government cannot permit. But under this government, a person, group, or organization that has demanded something has always had the government's attention, and many problems have been solved through dialogue, discussion, and petitions because the government is willing at all times to maintain that dialogue. But in order to demand a right, we cannot and must not take up arms and kill other persons as criminals do. We must naturally face the problem of crime and the fact that a great deal of crime may be caused by social issues: the lack of jobs, for example, persons coming in from other countries and other such reasons. But these facts do not justify the commission of criminal acts that affect 90 percent or more of all Guatemalan citizens who obey the law and have the right to live in peace and freedom, respecting the country's institutions. Therefore, I would like to say to you, candidly, that I need the cooperation

of all institutions. We have just witnessed the tragic murder of a judge from one of Guatemala's courts of justice, and judges are demonstrating to demand that the government provide security. The judicial organization is an important part of any system that must provide Guatemalans with a state of law and a feeling of security. I am happy that such a demand is being made and I call upon them to sit down with the government to discuss how the application of the law and the control of crime by the government can be properly complemented by the judicial system, which must also serve the interests of the people of Guatemala.

Now they are demonstrating, but there have been thousands of murders, dozens of crimes committed, hundreds of problems that we have resolved. We therefore need the cooperation of all institutions. We are also going to exchange views with the judicial system in order to see how we can combine our efforts for the good of the people of Guatemala.

Today I want to tell you of the government's resolute determination to challenge crime and drastically apply the law, to control such illegal acts even though they may appear to be in exercise of a proper constitutional right, to apply the law so that all the rest of us who must live in peace and freedom may enjoy the benefits of a true democracy. But I also want to ask you to cooperate with us, to provide us with the necessary information, to maintain trust in the democratic government and, naturally, to ask other government institutions, as we are going to do, to cooperate with the government in order to restore to all Guatemalans that feeling of security, freedom, and brotherhood that has existed under the Guatemalan democracy over the past 3 years.

Let us face crime together. Let us face violations of the law together. Let us join together in facing those acts that endanger democracy because anyone who would conspire to destabilize the regime is as much an enemy of democracy as one who would exercise a right for his own benefit and against the interests of the people of Guatemala, or the criminal who attacks a house and home and violates the fundamental right to the lives and peaceful coexistence of all Guatemalans. Let us join together in challenging all such illegal acts. I appeal to the people of Guatemala, to our nation's Congress, to the Judicial Branch and all political parties to defend democracy, to fight crime, and to protect the peace and tranquillity of all Guatemalans, a common cause of the entire Guatemalan nation. It is not only the president or the minister of government or the government or even the Ministry of Defense which bear responsibility for democracy, peace, and stability. It is the task of everyone to defend democracy. It is the task of everyone to ensure security. It is the task of everyone to contribute, to fight to halt the criminal acts of those who want to break down one of the states of law that has responded to the great desires of the people of Guatemala and that cost sweat and blood to attain.

For that reason, I now address this message to you because it is my firm determination to challenge these acts that destroy the security of all Guatemalans, but I know I need the cooperation and support of all government institutions and of all of you who believe and trust and have worked for democracy.

If we can all come to an agreement, if we do not begin to blame one another, but rather, clearly agree that the enemies of democracy are the criminals and those who violate the law, those who want to destabilize our government so that democracy will fall in the hands of those who do not want democracy and who destroy our institutions, then we shall not be able to defend it because the government needs the support of all Guatemalan people. [as published]

Let us join together in fighting crime; let us join together in the fight for the nation's security. The president is willing and knows that the great challenge to democracy at this time is a firm response to the desire for security of all Guatemalan citizens. I therefore call upon all members of the government, the Judicial and Legislative Branches, and all Guatemalan citizens, along with their political parties and people's organizations, to maintain the state of law, put down crime, and provide Guatemalans with the climate of security, peace, and freedom that any democracy must guarantee them.

Thank you, my dear friends.

* Violence Makes Highways Dangerous for Tourists

32480138a San Pablo Sula TIEMPO in Spanish
19 Apr 89 p 16

[Text] Driving on Mexican and Guatemalan highways at night is the greatest danger confronting tourists from the United States, owing to the fact that some areas of these territories are home to well-organized bands of assailants and guerrilla groups that kill without mercy, Julio Rubio, Guatemalan consul in this city, said here yesterday.

According to the Guatemalan official, parts of Mexican and Guatemalan territory are "no man's lands" because they are controlled by guerrillas and gangs of common hoods that use machine guns and, under the cover of night, attack tourists from the United States.

The Guatemalan consul's remarks remind one of the recent attack and murder in Guatemalan territory of young San Pedro resident Maria Teresa Paredes Ruiz (22) who, at about 2230 hours on Saturday, was shot in the head and killed by a gang who stopped her 14 km from Chiquimula, as she was returning from Houston, Texas, in a jeep Cherokee, accompanied by her cousin and aunt.

In order to avoid these risks, the Guatemalan consul said that tourists from the United States should never travel at night. It is much safer to stop for the night in a safe place rather than fall victim to gangs that lie in wait at night to attack and rob tourists.

Concerning Guatemalan territory, he added that last year Vinicio Cerezo's government imposed measures to counter this type of crime and organized a military-police force called SIPROCI [expansion unknown]. The force is made up of Treasury, National and Military Highway Police.

He said that in Guatemala, the combination of these three police forces has been successful. Operating together, they have broken up many hotbeds of common crime and cleaned out many areas of guerrilla influence.

* PRENSA LIBRE Carries Demographic Data

32480138b Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 24 Apr 89 p 36

[Article by Rene Arturo Orellana Gonzalez]

[Text] The people are a country's most valuable resource, the final purpose of development and the instrument for its execution.

Guatemala has 8.2 million persons living in 108,900 square km, with an average density of 75 inhabitants per square kilometer and an annual growth rate of about 3 percent. Of this total, 3.2 million (38.8 percent) live in extreme poverty (indigence) and 2.6 million (32.1 percent) in poverty, while 2.4 million (29.1 percent) are not poor.

The population age 10 and over, traditionally considered to be of working age (PET), totals 5.6 million (67 percent), 2.8 million (50.1 percent) of whom make up the economically active population (PEA), including those who are working and actively seeking work. Another 2.7 million (49.9 percent) make up the inactive population (PEI).

With a PEA growth rate of 2.8 percent annually, the country's productive sector should generate 250,000 new jobs in order to absorb the population joining the labor market every year. The goal of the economic policy should be to guarantee socially productive, fairly paid work for those fit to work and wishing to do so.

A negative sign of the Guatemalan economy is the fact that only 35.8 percent of the PEA is fully utilized, working 40 or more hours a week for equal or more than the minimum wage. Some 46.4 percent are the "invisible" underemployed who work 40 or more hours a week, but for under minimum wage. Some 10.7 percent of the PEA are the visible underemployed who work fewer than 40 hours a week and do not wish to continue doing so for any longer. This situation is attributable to the economic system's inability to absorb the population available on the labor market. The remaining 7.1 percent comprise open unemployment, the result of low income levels of the economy's productive activities.

Hidden unemployment, the sum of visible and invisible underemployment, involves 1.6 million persons in the country, some 57.1 percent of the PEA, who, combined with the unemployed, total 1.8 million persons. This means that 64.2 percent of our labor force is underutilized due to the precarious socioeconomic situation in which the country finds itself.

A total of 50 percent of the PEA is concentrated in Guatemala, San Marcos, Huehuetenango, Quetzaltenango and Escuintla, with 24 percent in the metropolitan area. Some 54 percent of that group resides in the urban area and 46 percent in rural areas, with 54 percent made up of young people between the ages of 15 and 34, a median age of 30, and 75.5 percent men.

Some 60 percent of the PEA have families of 5 to 9 persons, a situation associated with the magnitude of poverty, especially in the lowest-income homes.

The level of education of the PEA is extremely low: 37 percent with no education, 27.1 percent having completed from the first to the third grade and 21.5 percent from the fourth to the sixth. This means that the group is forced to take poorly paid jobs.

Some 52 percent work in the primary sector (agriculture), while 31.7 percent are in the tertiary sector (services) and 16.3 percent are in the secondary sector (industry and construction).

Some 67.6 percent of the PEA work in the traditional or informal sector, while the remaining 32.4 percent do so in the formal or modern sector of the economy, with the resulting great importance of jobs in craft or manual activities (17.7 percent) compared with professional, technical and managerial activities, which employ only 6.6 percent.

Most of the PEA are blue- or white-collar workers in the private sector (43.2 percent) and self-employed persons (31.4 percent), of whom 28.3 percent have places from which they operate their own businesses.

Over half of the PEA, or 55.4 percent, have an income of less than 200 quetzales a month, equivalent to 6.67 quetzales a day, not enough to provide the basic "survival" food basket costing an average of 7.87 quetzales a day, much less pay for housing, clothes, education, transportation, health, and so on (insufficient income).

In addition to this, income is unevenly distributed or unevenly concentrated, with 60 percent of the PEA collecting 28.8 percent of all personal income and the remaining 40 percent taking in 7.12 percent.

Honduras

Presidential Candidate Flores on Quayle Meeting

PA1506000889 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Interview with Carlos Roberto Flores, Liberal Party presidential candidate, by Francisco Valeriano; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Valeriano] Carlos Roberto Flores, Honduran Liberal Party presidential candidate, met with U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle yesterday. We asked candidate Flores about the topics discussed at that meeting:

[Flores] We discussed very specific topics. We—and I mean National Congress President Carlos Montoya, Presidential Designate Jaime Rosenthal, and myself—returned from Washington a few days ago.

Our meeting with Vice President Quayle gave us a chance to reiterate some of the topics we discussed with high-ranking U.S. officials. We told Vice President Quayle that we are waiting for an urgent delivery of the funds that the Agency for International Development has allocated for Honduras. With those funds we will be able to create an economic plan that will revitalize our economy and help us solve social problems.

As for the aid the United States gives Honduras for its participation in the promotion of democracy, we told Vice President Quayle that we hope the amount of the aid will remain unchanged and not be cut.

We also agreed with Vice President Quayle that the Panamanian problem is worrisome. We must support democracies in Central America and throughout Latin America. We agreed that we must make joint efforts to promote democracy in all Latin American countries and to eradicate the elements that stunt the growth of democracy on our continent.

We also talked about the Central American peace process. We told Vice President Quayle that the Nicaraguan counterrevolution is part of that process and that there are clear commitments made by the various Central American presidents, and particularly by the Nicaraguan president, regarding a democratic reorganization in Nicaragua. That reorganization would create an atmosphere that will help solve the remaining problems in the region.

[Valeriano] Mr Flores, apparently the Panama issue was discussed extensively at these meetings with Vice President Quayle. Was that issue the major topic of discussion or were other topics discussed at length, too?

[Flores] The issue of Panama is important. An OAS meeting in Washington on the situation in Panama was held recently. That meeting was held to discuss a report presented by an OAS mission appointed by the OAS to arrange negotiations for a democratic transfer of power in Panama.

The OAS mission requested an extension of its mandate. I believe the OAS foreign ministers will meet again within the next few weeks to discuss the new report the OAS mission that was sent to Panama will present after their visit there. We hope the OAS efforts will bear fruit leading to the promotion of democracy in Panama.

Vice President Quayle expressed his determination to support democracy in Panama and stated that General Noriega is obviously one of the obstacles to the peaceful development of democracy in Panama.

[Valeriano] What did Vice President Quayle say regarding the delivery of funds to Honduras?

[Flores] He knows that U.S. economic aid is necessary for our countries' democratic development. We will have to come up with an economic plan to balance our economy, and the United States will start delivering the aid that has already been granted to our country.

[Valeriano] Did you discuss firm commitments or only vague ones?

[Flores] The aid has been approved. That aid will be used for specific purposes. We clearly stated that we do not want to use that aid to pay off debts or to make payments to foreign creditors for overdue debts.

TIEMPO Hits Reaction to Salvadoran Attacks

PA1006204889 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 9 Jun 89 p 6

[Editorial: "What Is Honduras? Who Are Hondurans?]

[Text] When we asked the Foreign Ministry why the Honduran Government has not protested the Salvadoran Armed Forces attacks on Honduran Army soldiers and a helicopter in Los Llanitos (Intibuca), the answer was very simple, but it shows the importance that is given to national sovereignty and integrity: The Armed Forces have not informed us of anything at all—they said —and what the media says is not accurate.

The newspapers TIEMPO and LA PRENSA published reports of the incident with photographs that confirmed the aggression, the bombing and shelling of villages in our territory, and provided accounts by eyewitnesses and municipal authorities, but which, according to the Foreign Ministry, lack credibility or importance.

Later foreign newsmen went to these places and confirmed what TIEMPO and LA PRENSA had reported. They also obtained other details on the incidents. While

the Honduran and Salvadoran Armed Forces denied the incident, despite the evidence, the truth is there for the gentlemen of the Foreign Ministry to see. According to statements by the villagers who were the victims of the Salvadoran aggression, the Honduran military threatened them and ordered them to be silent or to lie about what had happened. It was necessary for the Santa Lucia mayor to intervene before they could tell newsmen what had happened. A reporter for LA PRENSA was sidetracked by a commander, no doubt to keep him from doing his job as a journalist. The Honduran Army's weapons served to keep the aggression quiet instead of repelling it, to threaten Honduran border villagers instead of protecting them, while the Army turned its back on the enemy armed forces—which have trampled on our territory and humiliated us—instead of fighting them. In short, the weapons that we Hondurans and the Armed Forces have obtained with so much sacrifice, even at the expense of going without food and medicine, are used against Honduras and its people.

This situation should cause us to give much thought to the existence of the Honduran Armed Forces. We anticipated this when the Regional Military Training and Security Center (CREMS) was created exclusively to train 10,000 Salvadoran troops—the same Army that invaded us in 1969 and that is attacking us again.

We wonder if we are not acquiring a mercenary mentality in Honduras, whereby the state's weapons go to the highest bidder rather than being used in the national interest. For the past 7 years they have been used for economic—though ideologically disguised—benefits.

No national military force can function like this anywhere in the world. In any event, the ideology of any Army should be nationalistic, even in the case of powers and superpowers that invent and use internationalist ideologies for their hegemonic struggles.

Here in Honduras the case of the Armed Forces is just the opposite. To the military institute's way of thinking, those who are demanding the defense of sovereignty and territorial integrity are subversives who are allied with subversives from other countries. An aggression against Honduras by a foreign army is legitimized by the people attacked and those who inform and protest are enemies of the fatherland.

This was stated in an editorial of the Honduran Armed Forces' "Military Projections" program. The editorial said that the report was issued "without prior investigation" and was based solely "on information provided by these groups to confuse national and international public opinion."

"The irresponsibility of some print and broadcast media directors has reached the point that they are promoting these clearly Marxist - Leninist subversives, financed by Cuba and Nicaragua, and those who do not hide their open sympathy with pseudo-professional positions. They attempt to conceal this by claiming that radio stations or newspapers have unrestricted freedom of expression."

A similar explanation was presented by the Salvadoran Embassy in Tegucigalpa in a press communique distributed to the media, which published and disseminated it—although it appears incredible—through the official presidential house bulletins. We might add that the Honduran Army has echoed such reports, as an accomplice to a propaganda ploy to cover up an aggression against our country.

We ask, therefore: "What is left of our national institutions? What is Honduras? Who are Hondurans?"

Nicaragua

Government Protests Quayle Meeting in Honduras

PA1506001889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2319 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Managua, 14 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—The Nicaraguan Government today sent a "strong" protest note to the Honduran Government for permitting a meeting between U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle and contra military chief Enrique Bermudez in Honduras.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto states in the note sent to Honduran Foreign Secretary Carlos Lopez Contreras that the meeting held on Tuesday [13 June] in Tegucigalpa violated all the 1987 peace agreements, as well as the peace agreement reached in El Salvador in February.

The note states: Approximately 11,000 armed anti-Sandinists have their bases in Honduras, "this is a force that was created by the United States to attack Nicaragua." According to the Nicaraguan foreign minister, the meeting held in Tegucigalpa represents "total lack of compliance with international agreements" and negatively affects the peace process in Central America.

D'Escoto said that from the signing of the peace agreement in El Salvador on 14 February until 31 May, 163 Nicaraguan civilians have been victims of armed attacks by the contras.

Today, Quayle concluded his 3-day trip through Central America, from which Nicaragua was excluded. The U.S. vice president said that "the Nicaraguan Resistance will have the opportunity to have its say in the February elections, which we hope will be fair and free."

At the conclusion of his trip in Costa Rica, Quayle accused the Sandinists of sending Soviet arms to El Salvador to maintain the war in that country. According to Quayle, his government is "concerned" with the possible creation of a "Cuba-Nicaragua-Panama" alliance designed to destabilize "Central American democracies."

TV Analyzes Quayle Mission

PA1506001189 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle's visit to Central America is the most important step forward in the plan to boycott the Nicaraguan elections. Today he promised to isolate Nicaragua and strenthen the contras in the interior of the country.

Today Quayle revealed U.S. Government plans with regard to Nicaragua: isolation and the strengthening of the contra forces.

Vice President Quayle met today with Colonel Enrique Bermudez, to whom he promised help inside and outside Nicaragua. This was interpreted as a threat against the Nicaraguan electoral process and a reactivation of its militaristic plans in the region.

Quayle said that the United States will try to isolate Nicaragua until changes are made, and blamed the revolutionary government for violating the Esquipulas II Agreements. He mounted a show in front of a cache of weapons, accusing Nicaragua of delivering them to the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front]. The weapons shown were of the type that the contras sell to paramilitary groups in the area.

Most of Quayle's remarks after he met with [Salvadoran] death squad leader Roberto D'Aubuisson were designed to establish a terrorist policy in the area.

EEC Countries Give $30 Million in Emergency Aid

PA1406215389 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Approximately $30 million in fresh funds have been transferred to Nicaragua as part of the $50 million in emergency assistance that several European countries have pledged to Nicaragua.

France, one of the countries President Daniel Ortega visited, is one of the 12 EEC member countries that are prepared to discuss an increase in the community's assistance to Nicaragua.

Our reporters visited a French diplomat in Nicaragua to inquire about the position of President Francois Mitterrand's administration concerning Third World debt. Inevitably, the question of Nicaragua's economic relations with France and the results of President Daniel Orterga's latest tour to the old continent were addressed.

The diplomat said that there are two new elements at this moment. One, is the discussion of assistance by the EEC. The other, is the matter of the Stockholm Conference, where certain countries voted to grant emergency assistance that is already in Nicaragua. These countries include Spain, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland—which have not yet specified an amount—Norway, and Italy, among others.

Borge Discusses Policies, Relations With FRG

AU1506061989 Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 12 Jun 89 p 12

[Interview with Interior Minister Tomas Borge by Olaf Ihlau in Munich; date not given: "Volcanoes and Icebergs Coexist in This World"]

[Text] SZ: Comandante, at the Evangelical church conference you have just confessed some "sins," human rights violations in Nicaragua, which have also been committed under the aegis of your Interior Ministry. What are you doing about it?

Borge: The word "sin" was appropriate for the medium that I addressed. If, however, the impression has been created that I have ordered human rights violations and repent them now, this is wrong. These human rights violations— for example, the resettling of the Miskito Indians on the Atlantic coast—happened behind our backs. There were military operations in remote virgin forest areas. We only heard weeks later about what had happened there.

SZ: Amnesty International is accusing your state security service of torturing prisoners to death.

Borge: Even murders. I greatly respect the work of Amnesty International and have made immediate inquiries. First reports indicate that in some areas of conflict the counterrevolution used campesinos as armed messengers who were killed as a result. I do not want to exclude the possibility that there could also have been infringements in isolated cases. However, our troops normally do not act like this.

SZ: You are also accused of persecuting Christians and suppressing the freedom of expression of Catholic radio stations.

Borge: This may have been true in certain cases in the past, but today this is a surrealist assertion. The radio stations are absolutely free to work and to attack the government, and they do. The opposition paper LA PRENSA calls the leaders of the revolution "murderers and drug addicts" and even supports the U.S. policy of aggression, and we have not taken any countermeasures.

SZ: You are not exactly regarded as a liberal. After last year's armistice with the Contras you called the release of political prisoners a "grave mistake."

Borge: First we would have to define what political prisoners are. At that time I advocated humane treatment for the former members of Somoza's National Guard. Open

prison methods, which are more humane than in many developed countries, were used for them. Many counterrevolutionaries were also treated in this way.

SZ: How many of these counterrevolutionaries are still imprisoned?

Borge: Approximately 1,000. When the topic of political prisoners is discussed, people have to refer to them. It is often stated that we have 10,000 political prisoners, but these are grotesque lies. The International Red Cross has counted 8,000 prisoners in our country; 7,000 of them are normal criminals. You and Amnesty International can visit any prison in our country and convince yourselves that my information is correct. However, I would stake my life on the fact that nevertheless the figure of 10,000 will again be propagated.

SZ: The democratization process in Nicaragua is to result in new parliamentary elections in February 1990. If recent polls are to be believed, the Sandinistas will have to prepare themselves for a defeat by an alliance of the unified opposition. Would you accept such a result and resign?

Borge: If the Sandinists don't win the elections, it would be logical to act in accordance with the law. However, I have my reservations about opinion polls. With political tricks, the Christian Democrats want to create the impression that there will be an electoral fraud in Nicaragua.

SZ: Are these only tricks? The difficulties in your country—for example, in the economy—would certainly explain a change of mood in the population.

Borge: No, for it is Nicaragua's miracle that the population supports its own revolution despite all the difficulties.

SZ: This still presents difficulties for Bonn. The Federal Government's relations with Nicaragua are still in a state of suspense. For the time being it offers only material and technical support in the organization of the parliamentary elections. Is this an acceptable new beginning for you?

Borge: The recent visit by Development Minister Warnke [title as published] was a positive signal. Of course, the fact that help is made subject to conditions does not satisfy me but, after all, not our money but FRG money is at stake. We have a very open democracy which provides the parties with the greatest possible freedom of opinion and mobilization— apparently, the FRG does not want to recognize this.

SZ: And now some short questions about foreign policy: Comandante, lately there have been contradictory reports on Soviet arms supplies to Nicaragua. Gorbachev is reported to have mentioned the suspension of these arms supplies in a letter to U.S. President Bush. Your President Daniel Ortega has contradicted this report. What is the truth?

Borge: Gorbachev did not write that no more arms will be supplied to Nicaragua. He rather proposed that he will suspend arms supplies if the United States on its part will stop its arms deliveries to other Central American states. The Soviet Union is prepared to meet its commitments. We are satisfied with this. Now the point is in Central America that no new weapons systems will be introduced in the region, that we stick to the existing ones. For example, this would be the case if our Army, which is exclusively defensive, were to suddenly order MiG's or Mirage planes.

SZ: That is to say, Nicaragua wants to make the cessation of the importation of weapons conditional on agreements on the military aid for the entire region?

Borge: This has to be laid down in an agreement. At any rate, we are entirely prepared to come to terms in this field.

SZ: Do you believe that you will soon achieve normal relations with Bush's new U.S. Administration despite the prolongation of the trade embargo against Nicaragua?

Borge: Yes, volcanos and icebergs coexist in the world. Why should the United States not be able to accept Nicaragua?

SZ: The crushing of the efforts for democracy in China has also been decidedly condemned by some socialist countries. Others justify the massacre in Beijing. What is your opinion?

Borge: I am of the opinion of my government, but I am traveling and have not had the opportunity to ask it about its opinion in this special case. However, our students organization has protested against the events in Beijing.

SZ: A socialism that uses tanks against its own people certainly does not have many prospects for the future.

Borge: I am not familiar with the details in China. If Western press reports that peaceful demonstrators were massacred were true, I would be against it. Nicaragua would never do such a thing. However, if there were a counterrevolutionary uprising, I would also take tough measures to crush it.

Opposition Union States Stand on Elections

PA1506005689 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 2310 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] At a news conference today, the National Opposition Union [UNO] stated that it will not participate in any electoral process as long as the Supreme Electoral Council [CSE] is not balanced. Here is the communique issued today:

The UNO advises national and international public opinion of the following:

The FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] government insists on unilaterally handling the process of the country's democratization—violating the agreements and accords of Esquipulas II, Alajuela, and El Salvador, which demand a consensus among the opposition and the government through national dialogue.

Our demands for reform of the election law and the *media law, repeal of the law on maintenance of order* and public security and the law on jurisdictional functions of the FSLN Police, the promulgation of a general amnesty, the suspension of the law on military service, the demobilization of recruits, and prohibition of the penalty of expatriation have been disregarded.

Our demand for the commitments agreed to in El Salvador for the government and opposition to jointly decide the date of the elections has also been disregarded. On moving the date ahead, the manner must be established as to how the persons elected in these elections will take office in the short term, without waiting for January 1991, as established in the Constitution.

The integration of the CSE, verified by the ruling FSLN wing of the National Assembly, does not establish the balance to which President Ortega committed himself in a document signed by the Central American presidents in El Salvador. On the contrary, a majority of four to one, favorable to the ruling party, will be capable of endorsing any irregularity or fraud to benefit that party.

Concerning the reelected president of the CSE, we reject that reelection, because it is no guarantee of purity for the coming elections. We base our objection on the many cases of fraud that the CSE, directed by the reelected president, allowed in the 1984 elections. On that occasion, reports presented by the CSE showed obvious irregularities in 30 percent of the total votes, not to mention the many polling tables that garnered more votes than the number of persons eligible to vote at those tables.

The CSE reports are testimony of the electoral fraud carried out in 1984. Also, the commitment by the Nicaraguan Government and the Venezuelan Electoral Commission to select from the lists submitted by the united opposition the two representatives and alternates at the CSE, was not fulfilled.

Concerning the election of a notable person who does not belong to any political party, as a guarantee of impartiality, the FSLN majority elected a person who leans toward the FSLN, not heeding the commitment acquired with the Venezuelan Electoral Commission, which stipulated that the notable person should be selected by common accord between the government and the opposition.

The solution to this situation implies the restructuring of the CSE in a truly balanced manner, as well as the suspension of the integration of the regional electoral council, as long as their balance is not guaranteed. We reject the request made in this respect by the CSE. We also demand the enforcement of the other guarantees, for which we demand the path of national dialogue agreed to in Esquipulas II. In this regard, we have appointed a negotiating commission to facilitate reaching agreements and conclusions quickly, for the benefit of peace and to overcome the grave crisis affecting our people.

UNO for a government of national salvation.

Managua, 14 June 1989

Former Contra Hopes Soldiers Vote Against FSLN
PA1306225789 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2124 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Managua, 13 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Anti-Sandinist leader Alfredo Cesar, who returned to Nicaragua Sunday after 7 years in exile, said today that he hopes soldiers will vote for the opposition in the Nicaraguan elections, "as happened in Panama against Noriega."

Alfredo Cesar, of the Social Democratic Party (PSD) said that Panamanian soldiers "who voted several times, voted against Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander of the Panama Defense Forces and the regime's 'strong man.'"

Cesar called that one of the reasons why the Panamanian opposition—based on their own vote count—obtained approximately 70 percent of the vote in the 7 May elections, which were annulled 3 days later.

"The same thing can happen in the Nicaraguan elections," scheduled for February 199., "when soldiers, realizing the few resources their families have, decide to vote against the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN)," Cesar said.

So that this can happen, Cesar added, the vote must be secret and soldiers must not vote in garrisons as planned "to prevent pressure from the high command."

"I am going to fight for the soldiers right to vote in civilian clothes and in electoral centers instead of in their garrisons," he stressed.

As is the rule for exiles who return to Nicaragua, Cesar was required by Sandinist authorities to sign a statement renouncing armed struggle. He said that he arrived in Nicaragua to join the electoral struggle.

"I will be in Managua for only a couple of days, then I will begin touring the various Nicaraguan departments to campaign in favor of the opposition." he said.

Cesar stressed that he believes that for the 1990 elections to be honest and clean it is necessary to amend the Electoral Law, "particularly with regard to the Supreme Electoral Council and to authorization for a television channel for the opposition. [passage omitted]

Government Orders Price Freeze on 9 Staple Items
PA1506043689 Paris AFP in Spanish
0327 GMT 15 Jun 89

[Text] Managua, 14 Jun (AFP)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega today ordered a price freeze on nine basic staples, in view of the "indiscriminate price hikes" made here following the cordoba devaluation on Monday [12 June].

In a communique published by the local newspapers, the government announced a 1-month freeze on the price of rice, sugar, oil, and laundry soap and detergent revalued according to the costs established by the authorities.

The freeze also includes products such as tissue paper, sanitary napkins, toothpaste, and bath soap.

The official exchange rate currently quotes the dollar at 20,000 cordobas. The parallel exchange, which is also government-controlled, quoted the dollar today at 25,000 to buy and 26,500 to sell.

The prices, which will be effective as of Wednesday, will be 4,000 cordobas for a pound of sugar, 3,200 cordobas for a pound of rice, 16,000 cordobas for a liter of oil, and 5,500 cordobas for a bar of soap.

Contra Attacks Reportedly Kill 8 Civilians
PA1306133989 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish
12 Jun 89 p 1

[Text] During the last 8 days, eight civilians have been killed and a child was wounded by counterrevolutionary gangs. This is evidence that spilling blood continues being an instrument of the Bush administration to destabilize the revolution and support the opposition parties.

Among the fatal actions, an ambush stands out: Mercenaries ambushed a Construction and Transportation Ministry truck, using an antitank mine. This killed two civilians: Jose Zelaya Sandino, 25, and Adilio Uriarte Estrada, 33. This took place on 3 June at El Pochote, El Cua, Jinotega Department.

Another two civilians were murdered on 5 June at Comarca Camastillo de la Libertad, Chontales. The remaining four of the eight mentioned fatalities were killed on the same day at the Kukarawala River, south of El Tortuguero, in the Atlantic Coast Autonomous Region.

Aside from the 8 June attack on the Centro-American hydroelectric plant, where sabotage attempts failed and a Sandinist soldier was injured, there were two other noteworthy attacks carried out by the Honduran Army against Nicaraguan border points and eight airspace violations during June.

In the face of all these military aggressions in which youths, women, children, and workers lose their lives, the people have continued joining in the defense plans while the revolution's enemies remain silent; through their silence, they applaud these crimes.

DGPS Seizes Weapons From Unauthorized Persons
PA1406032589 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish
8 Jun 89 p 2

[Summary] Commander Doris Tijerino, national chief of the Sandinist Police General Directorate (DGPS), yesterday reported that during 40 operations launched throughout the country over the past 5 months to recover weapons and ammunition in the hands of unauthorized persons, the DGPS seized more than 4,750 rifles, 150 pistols, 90 revolvers, 19 grenades, 2 submachineguns, 2 RPG-7 grenade launchers, and other firearms. The weapons, enough to arm several combat units, were mostly seized from Patriotic Military Service defectors, soldiers, and members of the reserve.

Commander Tijerino said that one of the main goals of these operations is to keep the weapons from falling into the hands of common criminals who use them in robberies or to harass the people. Tijerino warned that there is a law against civilians having weapons in their homes. The law states that these weapons must be in the hands of the armed forces.

Panama

Southern Command Maneuvers Termed 'Arrogant'
PA1406234989 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish
14 Jun 89 pp 1, 16

[Text] In a demonstration of arrogance, the U.S. Southern Command threatened the OAS with its fighter planes on 13 June. The fighter planes overflew Building No 1 in Fort Amador, Panama City, where the OAS foreign ministers mission was scheduled to hold a meeting.

Yesterday morning, with the clear intention of frightening Panamanian civilians, U.S. Armed Forces contingents deployed sophisticated military war equipment near residential areas in Fort Amador and Curundu.

This new harassment and demonstration of arrogance by U.S.troops takes place as the OAS foreign ministers mission is visiting our country. A few hours after the aggressor's arms deployment, the OAS mission met with General Manuel Antonio Noriega and the members of his General Staff.

As the OAS mission met with the Panama Defense Forces members, U.S. military planes continued to overfly the area.

During the meeting, the OAS mission members had the opportunity to watch a videotape that showed the military maneuvers carried out by U.S. Army troops early yesterday morning.

During the maneuvers, the aggressor deployed many soldiers in combat gear, helicopters, and rugged-terrain vehicles. The military equipment and personnel were deployed in residential areas, thus proving to be another open U.S. violation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

Newspaper Cites U.S. 'Aggression'

PA1506010789 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 14 Jun 89 pp 1, 2

[Article by Antonio Graell Flores]

[Text] Since early yesterday morning, troops and warlike equipment of the U.S. Army's Southern Command moved through Juan Pablo II Avenue and Friendship Road in the canal area in open violation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

This new aggression by the U.S. Army against Panamanian sovereignty took place at the exact same time the OAS commission members are in Panama, seeking a formula of agreement among Panamanians.

The instigative and provocative attitude of the Southern Command, as well as the unjust economic sanctions against our country—which increased unemployment and caused our economy to deteriorate—have been pointed out on several occasions by Panamanian authorities in various international organizations.

"Operation Tuesday the 13th" [Spanish equivalent to Friday the 13th] was carried out by the Yankee troops in several sectors of the canal area. It was for the purpose of frightening the Panamanian civilian population. In the operation, the Army used armored personnel carriers and squadrons of Cobra combat helicopters that flew over the homes of El Chorrillo [low-income area of Panama City, where the Panaman Defense Forces headquarters are located] and the Barraza stadium, precisely where the Dignity Battalions were practicing, to see if "we would step on the peel" so the United States would invade us.

These are the external factors to which OAS commission member Diego Cordovez was referring when he mentioned U.S. intervention in the internal affairs of Panama. During the past elections, the United States established a parallel electoral tribunal and invested over $10 million dollars in the opposition's campaign to oust the Panamanian government that is opposed to the perpetual presence of foreign troops in Panama. The OAS should pay more attention to the external factors of intervention in our affairs.

Inasmuch as the OAS commission members are in Panama, it is important that they pay careful attention to the continuous violations of the Torrijos-Carter treaties, to the aggression, and to the threat of a permament invasion that the Panamanian people are experiencing on the part of the United States.

Gentlemen of the OAS: Panama is a nation of peace, but do not get confused because our people do not want to be a colony. We want to be free, independent, and sovereign. To achieve this, we are willing to offer our lives, if necessary.

How much longer will the dignity of our people be disrespected? How much longer will there continue to be so many violations of the Torrijos-Carter treaties? How much longer, gentlemen of the OAS? [repeats] How much longer, gentlemen of the OAS? How much longer, gentlemen of the U.S. Senate? How much longer, gentlemen of the White House? How much longer, gentlemen of the Pentagon? How much longer, dammit!

OAS Ministers Conclude Meeting on Crisis

Report on Meetings

PA1506013189 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2332 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] The OAS delegation today held its 3d day of negotiations with the various political sectors of the country in an attempt to find rapprochement formulas that may lead to a peaceful transfer of power that will have the support of the Panamanian people. The commission's tight and improvised schedule began this morning when they met with Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Ritter. Even though the meeting was not significant, it served for the Panamanian representative to be advised of the progress made during the talks. Foreign Minister Ritter said:

[Ritter] "I think there are justified reasons for us to feel optimistic and to think that finally there may be a dialogue among the Panamanian people.

[Reporter] "What procedural formulas have been presented by the organization? These have not been disclosed.

[Ritter] "I do not wish to reveal them because I feel I would be betraying the trust that the members of the delegation have placed in us.

[Reporter] "According to ADOC [Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance] leader Guillermo Endara, the OAS foreign ministers told him that General [Manuel Antonio] Noriega is not willing to sit down and talk to the opposition. Does this mean that there is a standstill?

[Ritter] "I feel that was a frivolous remark, to say the least. The OAS foreign ministers did not tell Mr Endara that Gen Noriega had rejected dialogue. I think that when things are said in a single phrase like that, it can lead to misunderstanding; it can make the Panamanian people feel that they have been let down by the OAS. I want to think that it was a frivolous remark by Mr Endara. Gen Noriega has never told the OAS commission that he rejects dialogue nor has the OAS commission said this."

Shortly after this meeting, the OAS foreign ministers gave the floor to the wives of the soldiers who were arrested following the 16 March foiled coup d'etat. Similar treatment was given to the representative of the political prisoners who asked the OAS foreign ministers for an audience.

Following these meetings, the OAS delegation—Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez, Guatemalan Foreign Minister Mario Palencia, Trinidad and Tobago Foreign Minister Shadeo Basdeo, and OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares—went to the Casa del Recuerdo de Omar [house on 50th Street frequently used by the late General Omar Torrijos Herrera] where they again met with the National Liberation Coalition [COLINA] candidates, Carlos Duque Jaen, Ramon Sieiro, and Aquilino Boyd. Following the meeting, the COLINA candidates answered questions for reporters and reiterated their willingness to negotiate with the opposition, however, without conditions.

[Duque] "They [the OAS delegation] have emphasized the need to find a way, a method, for a great national dialogue. No documents were presented. We only exchanged views on the way this great national dialogue should be conducted. They have expressed their willingness to return to Panama if we feel that their presence is necessary once we have found formulas and made progress."

Carlos Duque also talked about Gen Noriega's stance in the national dialogue.

[Duque] "In that case, it would cease to be a dialogue. If one of the issues to be discussed during a dialogue has been presented as a previous condition, it would no longer be a dialogue. I do not think there is room for stubborness or arrogance. None of the parties involved can display stubborn or arrogant attitudes. This must be an open and honest dialogue; no agenda or preconditions. We have said precisely this.

"I feel that after the OAS delegation has left, we should all take time out to think."

Meanwhile, Ramon Sieiro said:

[Sieiro] "During the very first meeting, we suggested that we Panamanians should all sit down and talk and solve our problems among ourselves. The COLINA slate reiterated this today. We are willing to sit down today; we have never refused to sit down and talk. Today Carlos Duque told the OAS foreign ministers that we encouraged them and invited them to initiate the negotiating tonight before they left."

Likewise, COLINA second vice presidential candidate Aquilino Boyd talked about the OAS foreign ministers visit and the round of talks:

[Boyd] "We can inform the people that during our visit with the foreign ministers, the Ecuadoran foreign minister said that there is a chance of finding ways to achieve a rapprochement."

Meanwhile, the ADOC representatives met again with the foreign ministers at the Apostolic Nunciature. ADOC leader Guillermo Endara Galimany said:

[Endara] "We took advantage of this meeting to reiterate our willingness, the ADOC's willingness, to talk and reach an agreement with the Panama Defense Forces concerning relations between civilians and the military and Panama's democratic future, so that as of 1 September—earlier if possible—the Panamanian people will see the beginning of a democratic era, an era of freedom and human rights."

The OAS delegation's last stop was the Presidential Palace where they were received by Minister in Charge of the Presidency Manuel Solis Palma. No statements to the press were made. However, there is hope that positive results that will allow a negotiated, peaceful, and democratic solution to the Panamanian conflict will be achieved.

ADOC Request on Political Prisoners

PA1406163989 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] One of the things the Civic Democratic Opposition Alliance [ADOC)is trying to do through the auspices of the OAS visiting delegation is to obtain the release of political prisoners. Ricardo Arias Calderon said:

[Begin Arias recording] First, we are waiting for the political prisoners to be released. We have repeatedly asked the OAS delegation to request this. We repeated the request yesterday. They have approached the authorities on several occasions and made several verbal requests, and now they will not present a written request. The human, constitutional, and legal rights of the political prisoners are being arbitrarily violated. We feel this will be proof of what the OAS can or cannot achieve.

The country's current crisis is hurting the Panamanian people; it is hurting all our people. It is also hurting the Panama Defense Force. The civilians are not the only ones suffering the consequences; the soldiers are also suffering. [end recording]

Regarding the current Legislative Assembly Arias Calderon said:

[Begin Arias recording] It is an assembly that never really represented the majority of the people. This was overwhelmingly proven by the people's opposition votes cast on 7 May. [end recording]

Meeting With Prisoners' Relatives

PA1506030089 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Relatives of persons arrested on 8 May picketed at the Ecuadoran Embassy this morning. They sought to exert more pressure to get their relatives released from prison. [Begin recording] [Silvia Gomez] We have come here peacefully to ask the ambassador to help us solve the problem of our arrested relatives. We have done all we can to get them released—they were unjustly arrested—but we have not been able to solve the problem. We have taken advantage of the OAS delegation's visit to our country to see if they can help us.

[Gisela de Lutrell] My husband was arrested approximately 23 days ago—I do not remember exactly how long. He was sentenced to 365 days. He was unjustly arrested by members of the paramilitary in the area around the Atlapa Convention Center on 24 May.

I would like to add that I have just come from the Marriot Hotel where, accompanied by lawyers Manuel Faundes—he was unable to come here with me—and Jacome [not further identified], I talked to the members of the OAS delegation. They heard our requests. We told them of all the legal efforts we have undertaken and which have all proven useless, since there is no justice in this country. We got a very good answer from them; they at least heard us out and will voice our protest. They will do this later because, as they told us, they are here on another mission. We trust that they will be able to do something for our unjustly arrested relatives shortly.

Recommendation for Dialogue

PA1406233989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2254 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Panama City, 14 Jun (DPA)—The OAS Foreign Ministers Mission has concluded a second round of efforts [to produce a rapprochement between the government and the opposition] in Panama by recommending that an immediate dialogue take place between the government forces, the opposition, and the military.

Foreign ministers Diego Cordovez of Ecuador; Mario Palencia of Guatemala; and Sahadeo Basdeo of Trinidad Tobago disclosed today that they have presented a series of ideas for the conflicting factions to think about to help achieve an "urgent national agreement in Panama."

Guatemalan, Ecuadoran Statements

PA1506022189 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2345 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Statements by Guatemalan Foreign Minister Mario Palencia and Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Palencia] We are leaving the Panamanians with hopes that they will hold a tripartite dialogue. We hope the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] will be included in this tripartite dialogue. The OAS mission has not presented proposals, it has based its talks on ideas. Proposals are the sole responsibility of the Panamanian people. However, we did discuss issues that the Panamanian people could address during the dialogue they will undertake in the near future. We have seen certain signs that make us feel that the dialogue to be undertaken by the Panamanians in the near future will be the solution to the crisis currently being experienced. We feel that this dialogue should begin immediately because time is running out. We are leaving and will give them time to sit down and think. It is now up to them, to the Panamanians, to sit down and talk and reach practical solutions and agreements.

The commission understands that the political parties, the FDP, and those sectors with a voice, have a moral commitment to the Panamanian people. They must find, as soon as possible, a rapprochement that will peacefully and democratically guarantee the transfer of power as established in the document issued during the 21st foreign ministers consultative meetings.

Following that order of ideas, we feel that the delegation has fulfilled an important phase of its duties. We feel pleased because we have done all that we felt was necessary. We have done all we could to help the Panamanian people find ways for rapprochement that will ensure, as soon as possible, a transfer of power that respects the will of the Panamanian people and is according to agreement among the Panamanian people themselves.

[Cordovez] We feel that what must be sought at this time is a definition with regard to the role of the various sectors and the various entities in Panama's political life. Therefore, negotiations cannot exclude any sector that has identified itself as a speaker in the process. We have made suggestions for the various sectors and the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] to think over and study. All that we have insisted on, and like [Guatemalan Foreign Minister Mario] Palencia said, we feel that this dialogue is not only necessary, but urgent. What we are attempting to achieve is a national dialogue. In each of our countries, at one time or another, we have had to face a similar situation to the one confronted by Panama. Each situation is different, some more complex than others; however, experience teaches us that the only way to solve a crisis like the one experienced by the Panamanians is

through a national agreement. This means a broad agreement with the participation of all those sectors that have something to say and something to offer to the national agreement.

There are internal as well as external factors that affect this crisis. The external factors were identified during our talks with government representatives, with pro-government parties, and with the FDP. A solution to solve these external factors may evidently require—may require, it is possible that they may require—talks with the U.S. Government. We have said that if the Panamanians agree, we are willing to help set up these talks.

[Palencia] You must not forget that we have been given the deadline of 19 July. On 19 July, we will return to OAS headquarters in Washington to present our report. Following this line of thought, the OAS delegation may return to Panama after it has verified that significant progress has been made with the negotiations to begin shortly. If necessary we will return to hear the solutions and agreements of the Panamanians.

Mission Reportedly 'Disappointed'

PA1406175489 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1711 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Report by Antonio Martinez]

[Text] Panama City, 14 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Government and opposition leaders today disclosed that the OAS mediation mission will leave Panama in the next few hours "disappointed" and empty-handed.

Opposition leader Guillermo Endara today said that OAS efforts are "stalemated" and that the members of the mission are "disappointed."

A source close to General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander of the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], agreed that the members of the mission are "very disappointed" and added that they will soon leave, "perhaps not to return again."

The source assured ACAN-EFE that the members of the mission were annoyed by the U.S. military show of force yesterday in various areas of the Panamanian capital, which forced a change in the location of the meeting with Noriega.

The source added that they are also "disappointed" by U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle's remarks against Noriega during his Central American visit, which ends in Costa Rica today.

Quayle said a "Cuba-Nicaragua-Panama alliance has been formed, which entails a threat to peace and democracy in the continent."

According to the source close to Noriega, with its military maneuvers yesterday, the U.S. Government sent a message to the OAS mission to the effect that if it does not find a solution soon in line with Washington's interests, the United States will intervene militarily.

Government and opposition spokesmen stated that the OAS mission has not even attained an agreement on "points that have to be included in the agenda" that would have to be discussed in a future negotiation to resolve the Panamanian crisis.

The opposition says Panama's problem is based on Noriega, who continues to be the FDP commander and the core of "true power" in the country since the 1968 military coup in Panama. Thus, the opposition demands he leave the position he presently welds.

In addition, the opposition insists that it won the 7 May elections that were annulled and, thus, demands the victory be given to them.

The government's position is that the crisis is a result of U.S. intervention in Panama's internal affairs. It has requested that the economic sanctions against Panama issued by Washington in March 1988 be included in the negotiation agenda.

Former opposition candidate Endara stated today the opposition cannot accept the topic of U.S. sanctions be included in the agenda, because the OAS has suggested the opposition is not responsible for the U.S. measures and has no say in the eventual lifting of the sanctions.

Endara, whom the opposition considers the "elected president" of the country, stated, "I must admit I am perplexed by this matter."

The OAS mission comprises Brazilian OAS Secretary General Joao Clemente Baena Suarez and the Guatemalan, Ecuadoran, and Trinidadian and Tobagan Foreign Ministers Mario Palencia, Diego Cordovez, and Sahadeo Basdeo, respectively.

According to the OAS resolution issued on 17 May, the OAS mission must seek "formulas of understanding" for a "transfer of power" to overcome the crisis that resulted from the election annulment.

In its first visit to Panama in late May, the OAS mission found "possibilities of understanding." Therefore, on 6 June it requested an extension of its mandate. The mandate was extended until 19 July. After that, the mission returned to Panama and began a second round of talks on 12 June.

The Panamanian opposition expressed its "disappointment" over the extension of the mandate, which it described as excessive.

According to the source close to Noriega, this time the ones who are "disappointed" are the OAS mission members, who will not return to Panama for as long as the deadlock continues.

The source added: "They will not return until the Panamanians call them to tell them they are willing to negotiate."

Those accompanying the OAS mission confirmed to ACAN-EFE that the foreign ministers and Soares are to leave Panama today or tomorrow. However, they added that conditions to prolong this visit a few more days could eventually appear.

Despite the standstill in the negotiations, several government and opposition leaders stressed they still believe an agreement is possible.

Endrara told the media today that "one cannot speak of failure yet," because any negotiation goes through difficult moments.

Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter said he believes that "with patience and optimism there could be a dialogue before 19 July."

Ritter rejected Endrara's remarks that Noriega refuses to talk with the opposition.

Today, the Panamanian foreign minister said: "That is a rash statement, because the OAS mission has not told Mr Endara that Gen Noriega rejected the dialogue."

At the end of a meeting with the OAS mission, Noriega told the press he and the FDP have nothing to negotiate with the opposition because it is a problem that concerns "the parties in conflict," parties that are claiming victory in the 7 May elections. Therefore, he added, "the civilians" must find a solution to the crisis.

Noriega later said that although the military men are not participating in the negotiations, the FDP is willing to "endorse" (back) whatever is decided in the dialogue among the parties.

The opposition, for its part, stresses it will only talk with the military men, because they hold "the real power," instead of with "their subordinates": the members of the parties that support the regime.

FDP Patrols Increase on Costa Rican Border

PA1506013489 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 10 Jun 89 p 16

[Text] Panama Defense Forces [FDP] units of the 8th Military Zone in Bocas del Toro have increased their patrols along the border with Costa Rica for a period of 5 days to prevent the smuggling of weapons and drugs and to deny entry into Panama of undocumented persons.

The operation at Bocas del Toro, on the Panama-Costa Rica border, is being carried on orders from Major Eduardo E. Gutierrez in coordination with Captain German Gonzalez Pitti and under the supervision of Sublieutenant Santiago Ramirez. The operation is being conducted jointly with the National Department of Investigations (DENI).

Noriega Adviser Notes Junta Proposal Raised

PA1406163789 Panama City Telemetro Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] Panama Defense Forces [FDP] adviser Renato Pereira today reiterated that the proposal of establishing a military junta is viable. He added that General [Manuel Antonio] Noriega's withdrawal has not been considered at the meetings with the OAS ministers. Gen Noriega, commander in chief of the FDP; Colonel Marcos Justines; adviser Renato Pereira; and other officers of the FDP General Staff were at the presidential palace this afternoon where they met with the minister in charge of the Presidency.

Nevertheless, it was Renato Pereira who addressed the media concerning his proposal of a military board.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What progress has been made in that direction?

[Pereira] We are discussing it; it is all being discussed.

[Reporter] Have you discussed Gen Noriega's withdrawal?

[Pereira] Nothing like that has been discussed, sir. [laughs] Absolutely nothing.

[Reporter] What is your view of the situation?

[Pereira] Optimistic, man. I am an optimist.

[Reporter] The foreign minister says that in any case there must be a transfer of power on 1 September.

[Pereira] The Constitution establishes 1 September as a magical date. Something will happen, I am sure.

[Reporter] Like what?

[Pereira] In the magic world anything can happen. [end recording]

Due to 'Crisis,' Solis Palma Might Extend Term

PA1406204289 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 14 Jun 89 p 5

[From the unattributed "Scoops" column]

[Text] Argentine President Raul Alfonsin decided to turn over power to his successor ahead of time amid a serious crisis. This action did not create any traumas or

havoc in that South American country. In a similar move, Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, might extend his term because of the political crisis caused by the U.S.-orchestrated fraud that led to the annulment of the Panamanian elections. That would be the best solution. Why make a mountain out of a molehill?

Opposition Legislator on Solis Palma's Trip to Cuba

PA1506001289 Panama City Radio Mia Network in Spanish 1330 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Statements by Authentic Panamenist Party legislator Marcos Alarcon during the "Talking With The People" program—recorded]

[Text] Panamanian teacher and legislator Marcos Alarcon has said that, with his recent trip to Havana, Cuba, Manuel Solis Palma turned an old dream into a reality. Alarcon said that Solis Palma has always wanted to be accepted by the international Marxist community. Alarcon added that with his visit to Havana, Solis Palma is trying to blackmail the United States.

Last week, Solis Palma paid a 4-day visit to Havana and met with communist leader Fidel Castro. Solis Palma described his visit as an experience of knowledge and work that impressed him very much.

In the following interview, legislator Alarcon gives more details about his opinion of the trip to Cuba last weekend by Manuel Solis Palma, the minister in charge of the presidency:

[Begin Alarcon recording] Looking at Solis Palma's trip from his point of view, he fulfilled an old dream. He has always wanted to be accepted by the international Marxist community. We all know the Marxist tendencies that have characterized Solis Palma's political life. Those tendencies are clearly proven by his attempts to impose on Panama an education system that is an exact copy of the Cuban education system.

I say this because the Cuban education system is also divided into initial, intermediate, and university education—the system Solis Palma wants to impose here. That system gives a significant advantage to local communists. Through that educational system and through the health system, local communists have the opportunity to enter various government spheres and can make decisions in sensitive institutions, such as the Education and Health Ministries, which have so much effect on public opinion and the education of future generations.

In addition, Solis Palma's trip to Cuba can be viewed as some sort of blackmail. I believe it is silly to think that a trip to Cuba can blackmail the United States, the premier world power. That belief is somewhat childish. I believe, however, that that is the belief of the local communists. They believe Solis Palma's trip to Cuba can serve to blackmail the United States and force it to change its position concerning the Panamanian people's hopes and desires to live within a democratic, free, and fair system. [end recording]

Espino Replaced in Agriculture Development Post

PA1306135489 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 13 Jun 89 pp 1, 10

[Text] Through Decree 28 of 12 June signed by Panamanian President Manuel Solis Palma and Presidency Minister Nander Pitty Velasquez, Darien Ayala Walker was today appointed as the new Panamanian Agricultural Development (MIDA) minister.

Before his appointment as the new MIDA minister, Ayala Walker was director of the General Directorate for Community Development, DIGEDECOM.

The new MIDA minister has occupied other important posts in the agricultural field, such as general manager of La Victoria Sugar Mill Corporation.

Ayala's valuable work in his previous posts made him become worthy of this new assignment as head of the Panamanian agricultural sector.

The aforementioned decree also appointed Professor Darien Fernandez Jaen as the new DIGEDECOM director. Fernandez was governor of Cocle Province.

Both appointments have pleased the community, because both Ayala and Fernandez are fully identified with the Panamanian community and its needs.

[Ayala Walker replaces Darinel Espino as MIDA minister. Espino is the currrent secretary general of Democratic Revolutionary Party]

Resignation Letter Published

PA1306143489 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 13 Jun 89 pp 1, 10

[12 June letter of resignation from former Agricultural Development Minister Darinel Espino to Minister in Charge of the Presidency Manuel Solis Palma]

[Text] His Excellency
Manuel Solis Palma
Minister in Charge of the Panamanian Presidency

Your Excellency,

I hereby submit my resignation from the post of agricultural development minister, with which I was highly honored by Your Excellency, minister in charge of the presidency, as a member of your government team.

I wish to thank you for your support and trust while I occupied that distinguished post, and I use this occasion to reiterate our highest esteem and distinguished consideration.

[Signed] Darinel Espino, Minister

CC: Presidency Minister Nander Pitty

Noriega Attends First Lieutenant Graduation

PA1206023989 Panama City Television Service in Spanish 1530 GMT 11 Jun 89

[From "Commander in Chief in Action" segment of the "Everything for the Fatherland" program]

[Excerpts] On Tuesday, General Manuel Antonio Noriega visited the main garrison's military recreation complex to preside over an important coordination and evaluation meeting for special action courses related to the current situation, of a country under attack. [passage omitted]

Before the meeting ended, a group of freshly promoted first lieutenants arrived and were each assigned the military zones they will serve as Panama Defense Forces officers. [passage omitted]

Gen Noriega, addressing the first lieutenants, said to them: You belong to an institution that has among it numbers troops that know more than you and who taught all of us here today who joined as first lieutants. You must learn from those troops.

He added that it is important that they maintain a balanced budget, control their salaries, and avoid getting prematurely into debt before they have a chance to develop professionally. To end, the commander in chief said to the group of new officers: The advice received should not be taken as demagoguery or anecdotes—they are the facts and realities of this institution, of great value to you in that important rank of first lieutenant.

Opposition Leaders Cheered at University

PA1406235589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1804 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Panama City, 14 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Hundreds of students of the (stated-owned) University of Panama today cheered when the [Civic Democratic Opposition] leaders demanded the resignation of Panama Defense Forces [FDP] Commander General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Guillermo Endara, Ricardo Arias Calderon, and Guillermo Ford—who present themselves as the president and vice presidents elected in the annulled 7 May elections—walked down the main street of the campus, while the students greeted them and applauded them from the sidewalks and roofs of the campus buildings.

Endara said he rejected any solution to the Panamanian crisis that does not turn power over to the opposition on 1 September, the scheduled inauguration day.

"Endara will not be Noriega's puppet, nor will he rule with Noriega," the opposition leader added.

For his part, Arias Calderon requested respect for the self-determination of the Panamanian people," as expressed 7 May at the polls," he added.

"There will not be a solution to the Panama crisis, nor will there be any democracy or any future, if Noriega stays as FDP commander," Arias Calderon warned, adding that the general "must leave."

Before hundreds of students at the campus, Arias Calderon shouted: "I challenge Gen Noriega to dare come without any bodyguards to the university campus."

Colon Teachers Denied Demonstration Permit

PA0906173189 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Colon teachers tried to stage a march on the streets of Colon today to protest the disappearance of Professor Roberto McLaughlin. Panama Defense Forces riot units, however, told them that they had to stop their demonstration because they had not received permission from the governor's office to hold it.

The teachers went to the governor's office peacefully, marching on the sidewalks without disrupting traffic.

According to ACAN-EFE, the teachers were told at the governor's office that demonstrations are banned, apparently because of a presidential decree prohibiting this type of activity.

McLaughlin has been missing since 8 May and there have been no reports as to his whereabouts. EFE reported that Panamanian authorities denied that they were holding McLaughlin and even permitted his relatives to visit several detention centers to see if they could find him.

Editorial Views 'Crisis' in Education

PA1106024889 Panama City PANORAMA CATOLICO in Spanish 4 Jun 89 p 4

[Editorial: The Crisis in Education"]

[Text] Classes will begin on Monday [5 June] at all levels: elementary schools, high schools, universities—not as the result of a reasoned and logical agreement but as the result of circumstances. A new stage begins in the meandering path which our education system has taken lately, a dramatic testimony of the situation the country has been enduring for years.

The crisis in education has been going on for a long time and is more profound than the nation can withstand. It is not the type of crisis that causes permanent discontent and a continuous effort to set new goals to allow the educational system to adjust to the demands of a more competitive society needing spiritual strength; it is the crisis of discontent, of a lack of coordination, of continuous clashes between the two key factors in reaching agreements and making accomplishments: administrative officials and staff. It began, teachers maintain, with an enforced and unpopular educational reform, followed by a policy of harassment by the Education Ministry and incompetence by the government. This situation was worsened by the overall crisis we have been enduring for over 1 year, culminating in the annulment of the 7 May elections. This situation keeps us at an impasse of unforeseeable consequences.

This time, human relations problems are added to the already increasing deficiencies resulting from the economic crisis. In addition, and making prospects even gloomier, Education Ministry authorities have announced that they will submit bills for Basic Education Law reforms to the Legislative Assembly. This will increase tension. Panamanian teachers have vigorously defended their law. Reforms can only be made through consensus and broad discussion among all parties involved, assuming there is a desire to do so in peace and harmony.

Meanwhile, the government and teachers have not reached an agreement. Students suffer the consequences, their education is less than sufficient, and they remain poor victims, not only of what is happening in education but of what is happening in all other sectors of society.

Comparison of Noriega Interview on Crisis

PA1306172989

Managua BARRICADA on page 11 of its 10 June issue carries an interview with General Manuel Noriega by Stella Calloni for Buenos Aires EL PERIODISTA. The BARRICADA version has been compared with the interview broadcast on Panama City Telecinco Television, published in the 26 May Latin American DAILY REPORT, p 29, column one, under the headline "Noriega Discusses Current Political Crisis." The two versions are found to be identical, with the following exception: page 31, column one, after last paragraph add: ...a step backwards.

[Question] Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega, is this war within the plans for low-intensity conflicts?

[Answer] Panamanian officers have conducted studies on the low-intensity conflict and we see it is a theory that follows the basic rule: It depends on how you look at it. The manual for low-intensity conflicts for our Defense Forces cannot be the same as that for El Salvador, Guatemala, or Colombia. These are U.S. manuals. American lives are based on plans. They are computerized and those plans, those computers, are always subject to failure, because the Latin American reality is far beyond any plans or schemes and because Latin American countries are not alike.

[Question] You, the man, are you not afraid of what could happen to you, now that you know about the commandos and the direct threats from Washington?

[Answer] No one believes that these serious problems one is committed to solve, such as the country's defense, can be solved in a street fight or bar brawl. Dangers increase as a cause grows in importance and there is more determination to have that cause succeed. We know who we are facing. Simon Bolivar used to say: "The United States does not want friends; it wants slaves." We demand respect, and I am very much aware of the danger involved. However, as I already mentioned, one finds motivation and compensation in the people.

[Question] What do you feel in the face of the positions taken by certain Central American countries regarding the Panamanian situation?

[Answer] The alignment of those Central American countries contradicts their own people and interests, and their people will judge them. An example I cite is that of Costa Rica. We trained hundreds of their young men for the benefit of their society and to protect their people. However, we have been watching the positions they have taken. As I have already said, they sought us out many times to solve their problems, and Panama is very proud of its solidarity. We have always shown our solidarity. We have never left anyone alone when they have problems, problems such as those threatening self-determination. Consequently, we have the moral authority to say that when faced with these Central American gestures and attitudes, we have always responded with a simple Panamanian slogan: In the face of threats and pressures, we cannot take steps backwards. The country's sovereignty and future are at stake. We are where we must be. (adding additional material)

Argentina

Alfonsin Considering 7 Jul Transition Date

PY1506022489 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2327 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 14 May (TELAM)—Presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez has said that he believes "that President-elect Carlos Menem has made a reasonable request to consider the possibility of postponing the transfer of power for a few days beyond 30 June."

Education and Justice Minister Gabriel Dumon asserted that "the Justicialist Party has requested that the transfer of power take place on 7 July instead of 30 June," and he explained that the government is studying the way in which the transfer of power will take place "so that it is done in an orderly manner."

Lopez and Dumon chatted with the media at the entrance of the Olivos Presidential Residence after the 2-hour meeting President Raul Alfonsin held with his cabinet.

Answering a journalist, the spokesman admitted that "it is possible" that this transition period "will be extended another week, but the president will wait for a formal request, listen to the commission in charge of the transition, and only then make a decision." [passage omitted]

Commission Rejects Postponement

PY1506035089 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 15 Jun 89

[Excerpts] The commission of Justicialist Party and UCR [Radical Civil Union] legislators considering the date for the transfer of power have decided that the inauguration should be carried out on 30 June. The report will be explained later at Congress, where the legislators met to discuss the issue. This is an advance report on the discussions today in Congress and at the Olivos Residence on this issue. [passage omitted]

Asked about a possible delay in the transfer of power, presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez said that President Alfonsin was analyzing the request submitted by Carlos Menem's representatives. Lopez added that the commissions appointed by the two parties to discuss the issue were meeting at the Senate. These commissions, as we reported at the beginning, have agreed that the transfer of power should take place on 30 June. The decision was immediately conveyed to Alfonsin and Menem.

Menem 'Will Not Extend' State of Siege

PY1406190289 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] President-elect Carlos Menem today stated that he will not extend the state of siege because the causes that led to this measure no longer exist. He added that the inauguration ceremony will be austere and with no great pomp.

The La Rioja governor stated: We are putting the final touches on the inauguration ceremony. We are also trying to explain that we are ready to begin our government on 30 June.

Menem said he is satisfied with the political repercussions of his decision to assume office on 30 June, following President Alfonsin's resignation.

Menem said that the Argentine people and all political leaders feel that Argentina will again walk the path of greatness, provided that we all join efforts to pull our country out of this situation which has made governing almost impossible, to the point of forcing the president of the nation to present his resignation almost 6 months before the end of his term.

Menem added that within the next few days he will appoint the officials that are still needed to fill certain posts in the different government sectors.

He said that for the inauguration he will invite other presidents, but only to attend the transfer of power, without any great pomp. He said he would like to have all presidents attend his inauguration, namely George Bush, Francois Mitterrand, Felipe Gonzalez, and all Latin American presidents.

The president-elect explained that he did not sign the note of understanding extended by President Alfonsin for an early transfer of power for a very simple reason. He said that the document contained some decisions that had already been made. I was not consulted, he said. I think the president was inconsistent when he referred to a document of agreement. We have had talks on this matter, he said.

Menem added that President Alfonsin's message announcing his resignation was a rather hasty decision. He said that the president has tendered his resignation because he encountered a difficult situation that he was unable to overcome. He said that Alfonsin's decision to a certain extent shows that his attitude is that of bowing down to adversity.

Pugliese on Transfer of Power, State of Siege

PY1406035489 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2252 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Jun (DYN)—Interior Minister Juan Carlos Pugliese announced today that President-elect Carlos Menem will assume the Presidency after the state of siege is ended, because that measure will be in force only until 29 June. Pugliese also reaffirmed that there will not be a power vacuum.

"The ceremony to accept the resignation of the current president will be held simultaneously with that in which the Menem-Duhalde ticket will be proclaimed," Pugliese said.

Pugliese announced that the electoral courts for president and vice president throughout the country will meet on 22 June and that the electoral board for senator for the Federal Capital will meet on 21 June.

Pugliese said that the members of the legislative assembly will meet on 26 June to proclaim the Menem-Duhalde ticket, and that at the same time they will accept Alfonsin's resignation, but only effective as of their second meeting; that is, 30 June.

On 30 June, President-elect Carlos Menem and Vice President Eduardo Duhalde will take the oath of office before the legislative assembly and then go to the Government House, where Alfonsin will hand over the presidential sash to Menem.

During the news conference, Pugliese disclosed the decrees through which the Executive Branch has summoned the electoral courts for senators and president.

The electors for senators for the Federal Capital have been summoned for 21 June at 1000 at the Chamber of Deputies of the nation.

The electors for president and vice president of the Federal Capital will meet on 22 June at 1000 at the same place. The electors for president throughout the country will also meet that day.

Regarding the state of siege, Pugliese said that "if this climate of tranquillity prevails" the government might decide to lift this measure before the completion of the 30 days for which it was implemented. The minister said that it is possible that this will happen before the 26 June legislative assembly.

Yesterday the Executive Branch ordered that 13 more arrested citizens be placed at its disposal. These people were arrested at the request of Santa Fe Governor Felix Reviglio, but the reason was not mentioned in the official communique.

Finally, Pugliese voiced his "satisfaction" over the "happy outcome" of the developments related to the transfer of power and praised President Raul Alfonsin's "patriotic gesture" of tendering his resignation.

Defense Minister Nominee on Policy, Problems

PY1406202889 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1345 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Jun—Future Defense Minister Italo Luder has asserted that the future Peronist government's defense policy will seek as its main objective to resolve the Army's internal problems, "subordinating it to civil power," and to reallocate the national budget so that the Armed Forces "will have an adequate operational level" and a salary scale that will promote their professional development.

He noted that in a case of internal conflict, the nation's Constitution is above all other laws—the National Defense Law included. In such a case, the Constitution empowers the president to order the Armed Forces to intervene.

Luder made these declarations to Radio Continental and the newspaper PAGINA 12 when asked about the first steps he will take as defense minister. He said that future military policy will be directed to restoring "an adequate operational level" for the Armed Forces, which "should definitively be integrated in a modern society and be subordinated to civilian power."

As for the objectives of his administration, Luder emphasized the need to "resolve the internal problems in the Army, problems that the other services do not have," and noted that the solution to those problems will have to be found by the government since the military sector is "subordinated to the civilian power."

He briefly evaluated the state coup headed by General Jorge Videla, retired, in 1976. He said that the coup was a "serious mistake because the Armed Forces did not take into account the situation the country was experiencing in the face of highly operational subversion, and they thought that their intervention would follow the traditional pattern." Luder stressed: "The Armed Forces had all the power in their hands" and "paid the political cost of the antisubversive struggle." (?Asked) about an end to the prosecution of military officers for human rights violations and a suspension of sanctions on military personnel who participated in the uprisings of Holy Week, Monte Caseros, and Villa Martelli, Luder said that "my role must not be overestimated; my post will have important participation, but institutional decisions will be made at all levels."

The future defense minister added: "We have to assign specific roles to the Armed Forces and give them an adequate operational capability, since at this time we have a "part-time army that, because of its low income, works in the barracks half a day and outside the other half."

Continuing, Luder said "there are reasons why we should not forget our troubled political life," stressing that the Armed Forces "must understand that its role is not to interfere with the political power, just like all political leaderships."

Asked about the errors in defense matters committed by the Alfonsin government, Luder replied: "We must not judge the mistakes but the results, and these cannot be worse."

He then added: "I don't want to open a book of complaints against the UCR [Radical Civic Union] government," because "the truth is that the Justicialist Party supported in Congress most of the decisions made" and "there would be no use in blaming the UCR for everything now."

Luder declined to give his opinion on Aldo Rico and Mohamed Ali Seineldin, the arrested leaders of two uprisings, because "I do not know them." However, he said that "for Alfonsin, they are heroes of the Malvinas." The future defense minister contended that "their situation has to be judged in context," and noted that both of them are "professionals with good career records."

As for the eventual participation by the Armed Forces in an internal conflict, Luder pointed out that "the Constitution is above all laws, and it empowers the president to call in the Armed Forces if the nation's security and internal order are at risk."

Regarding the legislation dictated by the current government on the prosecution of military officers charged with having committed excesses during the antisubversive struggle, Luder said that the legislation "was decided in 1983 and then changed 2 years later." He added: "The legal framework was changed as they went along, and the crisis this government leaves behind is widespread, with problems pending in all areas."

Luder declined to reveal the Justicialist government's priorities in tackling pending problems, saying only that "the military issue, the socioeconomic crisis, and everything related to the nation's well-being is a matter of concern to us. All this must be resolved if we are to restore the credibility that has been lost at home and abroad."

Sources Deny Discharge of Rebel Officers

PY1306205489 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Report from the Defense Ministry by reporter Carlos Aglo]

[Text] Defense Ministry and Army Staff sources described as false and ill-intentioned the media reports that more than 21 officers involved in the latest military uprisings will possibly be discharged. These media reports about the officers who participated in the Holy Week, Monte Caceros, and Villa Martelli military uprisings had caused unrest among followers of Aldo Rico and Mohamed Ali Seineldin.

The military sources that denied these reports said that the legal cases of the military officers are being heard by the war council and by the military courts. The military sources added that the promotion board did not consider dismissing those officers. The media reports, therefore, were unfounded.

The military sources added that since the promotion board will meet by the end of the month, it cannot decide on discharges now.

Alejandro Diaz Appointed Future Labor Secretary

PY1306205689 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Alejandro Diaz, a lawyer from Mendoza Province, has confirmed that he will be the future labor secretary. Labor Minister-designate Jorge Triaca offered him the post. When asked about his future labor policy, he said he will not make statements until a national decree appoints him officially.

Designated Health Minister Appoints Secretary

PY1406040889 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Designated Health and Social Action Minister Cesar Corzo has announced that Dr Matilde Menendez will be his health secretary. Corzo explained that Dr Menendez is an illustrious professional who has done important research on AIDS and other health issues. He also pointed out that, for the first time in Argentine history, a woman will occupy this position.

Iraqi President Congratulates Carlos Menem

PY1406130689 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2245 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Jun (NA)—Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, through the Iraqi Embassy in Argentina, has extended his congratulations to Argentine President-elect Carlos Menem. He also expressed his desire to strengthen relations between the two countries.

Husayn cabled his greetings to the president-elect, stating that he received "with great pleasure" the results of the 14 May elections.

"I want to reiterate the Iraqi hope that our relations will continue developing and strengthening to the highest level" between two countries, Husayn stated.

The Iraqi president concluded by saying to Menem: "I hope you will continue achieving your objectives and that your country and its friendly people will continue on the path of development and progress."

Bolivia

Official Comments on Drug Enforcement Efforts

PY1406141889 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Bolivian Interior Minister Eduardo Perez Beltran has stated that the struggle against drug trafficking is being carried out in keeping with the appropriate guidelines. He explained that this statement was intended to answer certain reports disseminated in the United States to the effect that drug enforcement efforts in Bolivia were not coming up to U.S. expectations.

Minister Perez recalled that drug enforcement agencies have recently managed to seize 4 tons of cocaine that was being prepared for shipment abroad. He also reported that the drug enforcement agencies have arrested many drug lords; according to him, this demonstrates the effectiveness of the antinarcotics struggle.

The minister added that the appropriate organizations are investigating the murder of two U.S. Mormon missionaries in order to find the culprits. He also said that the security forces are all engaged in preserving peace in Bolivia.

Foreign Minister Valentin Abecia, who is also the chairman of the National Antidrug Council, has reported the latest results of the antinarcotics struggle. He said that in 1988 and during the 1st quarter of 1989, approximately 12 tons of cocaine were seized, 1,102 persons were arrested, and 2,194 drug-processing factories and laboratories were destroyed. Abecia also reported that 2,517 hectares of coca trees were eradicated. He indicated that Bolivia is doing a very effective job despite the severe economic and technical limitations that it must deal with.

Thus, the Bolivian Government has answered a U.S. daily that usually acts as a mouthpiece of the U.S. Government. This daily has criticized drug enforcement efforts in Bolivia.

Coca Growers: Government, U.S. Plan Bloodshed

PY1406221589 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 12 Jun 89, Section 2, p 1

[Text] Cochabamba, 11 Jun (PRESENCIA)—Coca growers of Cochabamba Department and representatives of the Bolivian Labor Confederation (COB) and of the Departmental Labor Federation (COD) have said that the government is planning "genocide" under the excuse that coca growing is illegal and punishable by law.

They reiterated that they are in a state of alert, and they called on Bolivians "to joint efforts in defense of coca growing, which the Bolivian Government has decided to eradicate, even at the cost of the blood of the Bolivian people." In a public statement, they said that "coca leaves are given free to the United States without any benefit for the country or the peasants. [sentence as published] That violates all the agreements signed on the principle that coca eradication is the basis for the great overall development of the Bolivian rural zones."

The statement says that the Bolivian people are being "deceived" by the government, which says that coca growing is an illegal activity punishable by law, and therefore any resistance "would be criminal and very dangerous."

The statement goes on to say that the official declarations "are a brutal plan prepared by the U.S. Embassy to cause bloodshed in the Chapare as part of a war of attrition."

The statement also says that "coca growing is quite legal and sacred for peasants, who are the majority of the Bolivian population. The Americans are the ones who consider coca growing illegal, because they are the ones who discovered that cocaine can be obtained from coca. They are the ones who created the largest cocaine market, not the Bolivian peasants."

The statement rejects the contents of the Law of Special Regulations for Coca and Controlled Substances. The statment adds: "We cannot obey a U.S. law that is contrary to our cultural tradition."

The statement concludes by criticizing the conditions of the U.S. Government and the legal actions aimed at "covering up the violence" that will be used to eradicate coca.

New Group Claims Responsibility for Explosion

PY1406132589 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0407 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] La Paz, 13 Jun (EFE)—Police sources reported today that the previously unknown "Bartolina Sisa Armed Brigade [Brigada Armada Bartolina Sisa]" has claimed responsibility for last night's dynamite explosion near San Francisco Park in La Paz.

The explosion caused no property damage or casualties; therefore, the police claim that the perpetrators of the attack "only wanted to get the attention of the police and the communications media."

Several pamphlets were found at the explosion site. According to the sources, these pamphlets contained slogans against the arrival of U.S. troops in Bolivia to participate in joint maneuvers, which have been suspended, and in the construction of an airport.

This is the first time that a group named after Bartolina Sisa has appeared publicly. She is the wife of Indian leader Julian Apaza, better known as Tupac Amaru, who was executed during the Spanish colonization period.

Soviets Seek Honorary Consulate in Santa Cruz

PY1406173189 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 10 Jun 89 p 9

[Text] Santa Cruz, 9 Jun—Fedor M. Timofeyev [name as published], first secretary of the Soviet Embassy in La Paz, is meeting with Santa Cruz authorities to discuss the opening of a Soviet consulate in this city.

The Soviet diplomat today met with acting Mayor Walter Higazzy Rivero to explain this proposal, which will intensify diplomatic relations in the social, trade, and industrial fields, among others.

The Soviet ambassador [as published] said he was visiting departmental authorities with a view to opening a consulate, since his embassy thinks it necessary because

of the many Soviet citizens who live in this department and because it will strengthen friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Bolivia, especially Santa Cruz.

The Santa Cruz acting mayor said he was pleased with the Soviet interest in opening an honorary consulate in this city.

Reliable sources said that Lorgio Vaca Duran, a Santa Cruz muralist, could possibly be appointed to this diplomatic post.

Brazil

Sarney Approves Draft Law on Nuclear Policy

PY1406235889 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] During a meeting of the Higher Nuclear Policy Council at the Planalto Palace today, President Jose Sarney approved a draft law concerning radioactive waste and the national nuclear energy policy.

At the meeting were 17 ministers, 4 congressmen, 8 scientists, and leaders of enterprises linked to the nuclear development field.

At the meeting President Sarney told the participants that Brazil will maintain its inalienable right to fully master nuclear technology and confirmed the national commitment to produce nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes.

The president ordered a group of scientists to review the national nuclear energy program's safety system.

Among the issues discussed during the meeting was the use of natural uranium in future Brazilian reactors, the effects of radiation on humans, and the problem of radioactive waste in Abadia, Goias.

Joaquin Carvalho, president of the Radioactive Waste Consultant Committee, said that the waste in Abadia will be moved to a definite destination at the end of the year. The site will be somewhere in the state of Goias. He said that the committee has already investigated eight possible sites for the storage of nuclear waste but that the final decision must be made by Governor Henrique Santillo.

Deputies Commission Briefed on Space Program

PY1506012889 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Today Brigadier (Larry Lobo), director of the Aeronautic Ministry's Research and Development Department, addressed the Chamber of Deputies national defense commission on Brazil's space program, which includes plans for launching four satellites between mid-1992 and 1996.

For this purpose Brazil is building the Alcantara Space Research Base in Maranhao. It will cost $200 million to build the base, and it is scheduled to be completed within 2 years.

During the past 2 years the Aeronautics Ministry has already invested $170 million in this project, which is being built because the Barrera do Infermo Launching Station in Rio Grande do Norte is not designed to handle large vehicles. The rockets alone are 20 meters long.

Four of the vehicles to be used to transport the satellites into space will also be built in Brazil. According to Brig (Lobo), Brazil will become capable of supplying services in the satellite communication field despite the delay caused by a 55-percent cut in the sources earmarked for the program. The Alcantara space center, located 22 km from Sao Luis, is scheduled to become operational at the end of this year and should be fully completed in 2 years time.

Tomorrow the congressmen will visit the site at the invitation of the Aeronautics Ministry.

Collor de Mello Leads in National Poll

PY1206162089 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 11 Jun 89 p 14

[Excerpt] If elections were held today, Fernando Collor de Mello (PRN) [National Reconstructon Party] would win with 43 percent of the vote, according to a national poll carried out by the IBOPE [Brazilian Public Opinion and Statistics Institute] from 1 to 7 June. Collor de Mello is the only candidate whose popularity is growing. In a poll carried out in mid-May he obtained 32 percent of the votes, while the rest of the candidates are losing their voter appeal. Then comes Leonel Brizola (PDT) [Democratic Labor Party] whose votes dropped from 15 percent to 11 percent; Luis Inacio Lula da Silva (PT) [Workers Party], from 11 percent to 8 percent; and Ulysses Guimaraes (PMDB) [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party], from 7 percent to 5 percent. These results were obtained from a poll that asked those surveyed to choose from a list of names. Of those surveyed, 16 percent said they were undecided, while 6 percent said they would cast blank votes.

In the poll without the names of the candidates—those surveyed were asked to spontaneously give the name of their candidate—Collor kept ahead but with a smaller margin; that is, with 34 percent of the vote. Brizola came out second, with 8 percent, and Lula came out third, with 4 percent of the votes.

In the latest poll, Paulo Maluf (PSD) [Social Democratic Party] obtained 4 percent of the votes; Mario Covas (PSDB) [Brazilian Social Democratic Party], 3 percent; Aureliano Chaves (PFL) [Liberal Party], 1 percent; Roberto Freire, 1 percent; Ronaldo Caiado (independent), 0 percent. Former Sao Paulo Mayor Janio Quadros was not included in the list because he dropped out of the race. [passage omitted]

Report on Fires, Destruction in Amazon
PY1406030689 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2300 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] The Environment Institute in Brasilia has received a report on the fires in the Amazon area.

According to the report, the number of fires last year were less than in 1987. However, an area of the Amazon the size of Ceara State was destroyed.

The photograph we are looking at looks like a sky full of stars, but it is a photograph of destruction. The white dots are fires that last year destroyed 120,000 square kilometers of the Amazon. What is even more serious is that 40 percent of that area was virgin forest.

In one single day the satellite spotted 8,500 fires. The states that have destroyed the most jungle areas are Mato Grosso, about 50,000 square kilometers; Tocantins, 30,000 square kilometers; and Rondonia, almost 20,000 square kilometers.

The damage is not only caused to the jungle. The smoke spread by the wind causes other damage. It affects the people's breathing and eyes; it hinders traffic at airports, sometimes causing airports to close; and it increases the pollution level in various parts of the country.

In February the Brazilian Environment Institute implemented a prevention program designed to decrease the number of fires in the Amazon. We already have a law, but there is still a lot missing. The institute does not have communications equipment, and it does not have the aircraft or personnel to supervise the huge Amazon area.

May Inflation Rate Reaches 16.6 Percent
PY1406011289 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 13 Jun 89 p 19

[Text] May's inflation rate, which was figured through the Consumers Price National Index (INPC), is 16.67 percent. The May inflation rate was more than twice the April rate, which was 8.06 percent. The accumulated inflation rate for 1989 already totals 110.46 percent.

Chile

Pinochet Seeks Popular Request for Candidacy
PY1406185689 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 14 Jun 89

[By Eliana Henriquez]

[Text] Should the people request it, I could be a candidate—President Augusto Pinochet said this in reference to the 14 December elections. He thus answered Radical Democracy Party leader Jaime Tormo, who asked Pinochet to be the presidential candidate. Pinochet added that everyone is individually asking this of him. He says that he has completed a stage of the process and that he is tired. I could act only if the people should ask me out of necessity, Pinochet said.

He reasserted that he has repeatedly said that he will not be a candidate, but since some are individually insisting that he should run, he said that he will consider a popular request; this request, however, has not been made. Asked how the people can ask him to run, the chief of state said that he does not know but that there are various ways to make such request. This is my answer to all those who are pressuring me, Pinochet said. Asked about the possibility of governing for 4 more years, Pinochet replied that he is not dismissing the possibility.

Junta Approves Reforms; Plebiscite Pending
PY1506005989 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Excerpt] The Government Junta, which acts as a legislative branch, has approved 54 constitutional reforms. In addition to the original 47 constitutional reforms proposed by the government, the junta introduced 7 more in accordance with the proposals of the political sectors represented by Sergio Onofre Jarpa and Patricio Aylwin.

The 7 reforms introduced by the junta were aimed at correcting some omissions and some erroneous proposals in the original 47 reforms. The 54 constitutional reforms are in harmony with the other precepts of the Constitution.

Tommorrow at 1300 in O'Higgins Hall of the Government House, President Augusto Pinochet will sign the call for a plebiscite. The tentative date for holding the plebiscite is 30 July. [passage omitted]

Army Auditor General Praises Buschmann Arrest
PY1406010489 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Excerpts] The most sought after Chilean terrorist, Sergio Buschmann Silva, has been arrested in Anchorage, Alaska. This information became big news when the U.S. State Department reported Buschmann's arrest by Interpol. The Chilean government had submitted a request for his extradition to Interpol after Buschmann escaped from a jail in Valparaiso. [passage omitted]

The news took Army Auditor General Fernando Torres Silva by surprise. He said that Buschmann's arrest is a very good thing because the request for his extradition is now in the hands of the Foreign Ministry and the Supreme Court.

Government Requests Extradition

PY1407133989 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2012 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Santiago, 13 Jun (EFE)—The Chilean Government today confirmed that Sergio Buschmann, spokesman for the Chilean ultra-leftist sector, was detained in Anchorage (Alaska, United States) during his flight's stopover. He was coming from Australia, from where he was deported to Sweden on 11 June. [passage omitted]

Chilean Foreign Ministry spokesman Carlos Ducci reported that as soon as Buschmann's detention was confirmed, the Chilean Government asked U.S. officials to immediately order his preventive arrest so he could be extradited.

Ducci added that the government will request Buschmann's extradition, as it did to the Australian Government. "We hope that this time our request is accepted," Ducci said. [passage omitted]

Aylwin Responds to Reported Communist Support

PY1406025689 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Patricio Aylwin, president of the Christian Democratic Party and spokesman for the coalition of political parties, tonight said that the proscribed Chilean Communist Party's position of supporting a single opposition candidate is a positive one.

Aylwin added, however, that in addition to giving such support, the Communists should return to democratic practices by abandoning their policy of violence. [passage omitted]

Aylwin was asked about the tacit support given by Volodia Teitelboim [secretary general of Chilean Communist Party] to his presidential candidacy.

[Begin Alwin recording] I believe that what the Communist Party said was that it will support the candidate appointed by the coalition of political parties, whoever he is. I find this to be postive. It would be a good thing if this support were accompanied by a Communist Party decision to act within the framework of the democratic system by giving up methods that are incompatible with democracy, especially violence. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Colombia

Son of Presidency Secretary Released Unharmed

PA1406214889 Paris AFP in Spanish 2048 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Bogota, 14 Jun (AFP)—Gustavo Montoya, son of German Montoya, Colombian President Virgilio Barco's secretary general, was released today unharmed after being kidnapped and held for 2 weeks. The announcement was made by a family spokesman.

Montoya's kidnapping was kept secret by government authorities and police, but the news was leaked to the press on Friday.

Montoya was released today at approximately 1450 GMT between Honda and Mariquita, in southeastern Tolima Department, approximately 140 km from Bogota. It is not known whether ransom was paid.

The Colombian police refused to confirm Montoya's release, claiming that their services were never requested and that they are not investigating the incident.

Reporters covering the Narino Presidential Palace reported that Barco met with his secretary, German Montoya, immediately after he was informed of the release.

Barco Sets 'Stiff Penalties' for Armed Groups

PA1006191189 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0514 GMT 10 Jun 89

[Text] Bogota, 9 Jun (EFE)—President Virgilio Barco's administration today modified the antiterrorist statute, establishing stiff penalties for members of armed groups belonging to the drug-trafficking, extreme right-wing alliance.

The penalties affect civilians or members of the Armed Forces or police who "promote, finance, organize, or lead" the "armed groups, misnamed paramilitary groups, which have been formed into death squads, bands of hired assassins, self-defense groups, or groups that carry out their own justice." The penalties also affect those who recruit or train the members of such groups.

Sentences ranging from 20 to 30 years in prison have been established for all the previously mentioned crimes.

Decree No 1194 establishes sentences of from 15 to 20 years for those who "provide equipment for or train people in military tactics, techniques, or procedures to carry out criminal activities."

It also states that the individual who "enters, joins, forms part of, or in any way belongs to the armed groups about which the previous article refers will be sentenced, for that sole crime, to 10 to 15 years in prison."

In addition to the prison sentences, the decree establishes fines and stresses that when the criminals are "active or retired members of the military forces, the national police, or the state security organizations, the sentence will be increased by one-third to one-half."

In the introductory section of the decree, Barco indicates that it complements other decrees issued 1 month ago that outlawed the so-called "self-defense" groups, which previous laws had permitted to assist the police.

In the previous decrees, Barco created a high-level commission to outline strategies to fight the "misnamed paramilitary groups." The previous decrees also created an elite group of 1,000 policemen to fight these extreme right-wing armed groups.

Today's decree was issued amid press leaks providing more details of secret documents that are being called the "Wanumen papers" because they were found in the possession of retired Army Captain Luis Javier Wanumen. The documents reportedly reveal that the government has been infiltrated by the drug-trafficking mafia and paramilitary groups.

Recent leaks indicate that the "Wanumen papers" mention Colonel Oscar Eduardo Pelaez, head of the Directorate of Judicial Police and Investigations (DIJIN), and Government Minister Raul Orejuela Bueno as members of the Cali Cartel who have infiltrated the government.

Executive Branch, Defense Ministry, and police officials have categorically denied that Orejuela Bueno and Col Pelaez are mafia infiltrators.

Meanwhile, Col Pelaez today reported that the base of an armed extreme right-wing group has been dismantled in Colombia's eastern plains.

He added that five members of the group were arrested and that authorities seized a large number of weapons, Colombian Army and National Police uniforms, and instruction manuals, regulations, and bylaws of the self-defense groups.

ELN Declares Oil Companies 'Military Targets'

PA1506040589 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0234 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Bogota, 13 Jun (EFE)—The multinational corporations Occidental, Exxon, Texas, and Opon Development [names as received] and Brazil's Petrobras are considered as of today "military targets" by the Army of National Liberation (ELN) of Colombia because of "their exploitation of petroleum in the central region of the country."

The Marxist-Leninist ELN leaders told EFE that they "are capable of destroying any or all of the oil wells" of those enterprises in the middle Magdalena area, central Colombia, if these companies do not stop working in the region.

In one of the ELN camps in the mountains of the Catatumbo basin, in the northeastern section of the country, the guerrilla leaders told EFE that they can "evict, either through verbal persuasion or by force, the companies that are violating the rights of the people."

Mauricio, one of the ELN national command leaders, told EFE: "These are not empty threats, nor are we just making noise. We will carry out what we have announced, and if the companies do not understand this, they will see the results for themselves." The ELN is the most active guerrilla group of the six that operate in the country.

The U.S. companies Occidental, Exxon, Opon Development, and Texas and Brazil's Petrobras, an affiliate of Braspetro [Petobras International, Inc.], all operate in the area known as the "Mares Concession," a 50,000-hectare area surrounded by a 35-sq-km "protection" zone.

Since 1951, when Ecopetrol [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] was established, the "Mares Concession" was left as a state reserve, and other enterprises are not allowed to explore or exploit the area.

However, the ELN leadership charged that Ecopetrol has signed secret contracts of association for exploiting the subsoil of the area.

Opon Development signed a 22-year contract in 1987, and it is currently drilling five wells. According to the ELN, it is planning to drill four more this year in the same area of the concession.

The other enterprises are drilling in the surrounding protection zone, which is also exclusively reserved for Ecopetrol, according to the law.

Decree 0062 of 1970, which approved the statutes of Ecopetrol, says that "the enterprise was established to administer and handle all the property that reverted to the state in the Mares Concession and the oil deposits in surrounding areas."

The oil wells of the Mares Concession, the first to produce oil in the country in 1921 with the participation of the Tropical Oil Company, produced 2 billion barrels a year.

At their peak, the Mares Concession wells were the fourth most productive in the world in terms of reserves and number of barrels produced.

The ELN, which advocates the rational exploitation of the natural reserves of the country and demands the nationalization of oil, announced that from now on its struggle will be "more aggressive and determined, because we have the strength and support of the people."

From January 1988 through May 1989, the ELN has carried out 117 attacks on the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline, the largest in the country, causing over $40 million in damage.

Mejia on Threats to Oil, Coal, Gold Production

PA1006042289 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 2059 GMT 8 Jun 89

[By Alvaro Pardo]

[Text] Bogota, 8 Jun (REUTER)—In an interview with REUTER, Colombian Mines and Energy Minister Oscar Mejia charged that a Colombian guerrilla group that is responsible for more than 100 dynamite attacks on oil installations in the past few years is planning to focus its terrorist attacks on the country's coal- and gold-producing zones.

During the interview with REUTER, Mejia said one of the goals of the pro-Castro Army of National Liberation (ELN) is to destroy El Cerrejon, the world's largest coal mine, and the gold mines in northern Colombia. The ELN currently controls between 30 and 40 medium-sized mines in that area. Colombia is the world's fourth largest exporter of coal and the fourth largest oil exporter in Latin America. In addition, it is among the 10 top gold-producing countries in the world.

"The guerrillas want to destabilize the democratic process by attacking the key production areas. They justify their actions by saying the multinational companies must go because they are taking away the country's resources," the minister explained.

Mejia said that last year the ELN, the only terrorist group that refuses to hold peace talks with the government, took over approximately 30 to 40 medium-sized gold mines in the lower Cauca region, Antioquia Department. Minister Mejia also said that for more than 4 years the ELN rebels have been collecting "taxes" from the region's miners and have been launching terrorist attacks against companies that resist their pressure and threats.

"The guerrillas sell the gold to Colombia's Central Bank through intermediaries. In addition to the 'taxes,' they are receiving between $2 and $3 million a month, money they use to finance their activities," the government official added.

Last year Colombia produced 30 million tons of refined gold; 90 percent of the gold was extracted from the lower Cauca region, where the ELN operates. Mejia said the guerrillas are also active in the northern Cesar Department. He added that the ELN is against foreign companies exploiting the area's coal deposits, among them the La Loma deposit, which should start producing 6 million tons of coal annually in 1992.

Minister Mejia also said the ELN "has not reached El Cerrejon yet, but military intelligence has advised us that this is one of the ELN's goals for this year." El Cerrejon, located in Guajira Department, should produce 15 million tons of coal in 1989. The exploitation of the mine is the result of a contract signed between the Colombian Coal Enterprise and Intercor, an affiliate of the U.S. firm Exxon.

The minister said that as a result of ELN attacks against the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline, oil exports dropped by 26 percent in 1989.

According to Mejia, during the first 5 months of 1989 the ELN has launched 17 attacks against the oil pipeline and caused $110 million in losses. Mejia added that the ELN wants to pressure the government into nationalizing the oil companies without paying compensation.

'Mastermind' of Bombings, Kidnappings Captured

PA1406131389 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Bogota—The intellectual and material mastermind of the terrorist attacks on the Cano Limon-Covenas pipeline and the kidnappings of journalists, mayors, and congressmen in the country's northeastern region has been captured by regular Army members. The 5th Brigade commander has confirmed that Segismundo Herrera Lezcano, alias Lorenzo, a (?member) of the Armando Cacua Front of the outlawed National Liberation Army, was captured between Cucuta and Zulia. At the time of his arrest he was carrying 15 million pesos in cash, weapons, materials for manufacturing bombs, and lists of cattlemen and other persons to be kidnapped.

ELN Reportedly Kidnaps Oil Engineers, Police

PA1006001889 Paris AFP in Spanish 0455 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Bogota, 8 Jun (AFP)—Police spokesmen reported that over the past few hours, two oil engineers—one of them a Mexican—and two policemen were kidnapped by guerrillas in eastern Colombia. They are Rodolfo Cruz Reina, a Mexican; Fabiola Robayo, a Colombian; and Judicial Branch employees Alfredo Rey and Dario Amable, who belong to the Los Angelitos and La Reinera inspectorates, Arauquita Jurisdiction, on the border with Venezuela.

Cruz and Robayo—who worked for the Halliburton company, which specializes in casting cement for oil wells—had arrived 12 hours earlier in Arauca, the capital of Arauca Province. They left this morning for the Cano Limon oil fields, approximately 30 km away, but never arrived.

According to preliminary inquiries, both professionals fell into the hands of the (pro-Cuban) Army of National Liberation [ELN]. For over a year, the ELN has been waging a terrorist campaign against the country's oil industry, demanding that it be nationalized.

This guerrilla organization carried out more than 50 dynamite attacks in 1988 and about 20 so far this year. These attacks have been mainly directed against the Limon-Covenas oil pipeline, which carries export oil.

Two ELN Guerrillas Killed in Cali Shoot-Out

PA1006021889 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Two guerrillas believed to be members of the self-styled Army of National Liberation, ELN, were killed by policemen after they dynamited four buses on 7th Avenue and 33d Street in the El Porvenir neighborhood in Cali, capital of Valle del Cauca Department. [passage omitted]

The incident took place when four guerrillas stole a taxi with license plates BJ-2822 from a motel on the Cali exit that leads to Candelaria, which prompted a police chase. [passage omitted]

One of the guerrillas killed in the incident was identified as Wilson Gomez Bonilla, age 23. The other two—one of whom seems to have been seriously wounded—fled.

Found in the stolen taxi were a large amount of rifle ammunition, two homemade bombs, battle fatigues, communication equipment, hoods, food supplies, 1,500 ELN propaganda bulletins, and a sketch of the areas surrounding the Ecopetrol [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] plant in Yumbo, which seems to have been the guerrillas' next target.

The police believe that the guerrillas were not only planning to blow up the Ecopetrol facilities in Yumbo, but that they were also planning to kidnap the firm's regional manager.

'Green Commands' Claim Recent Attacks

PA1506025889 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 8 Jun 89 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Text] A strange organization called the Green Commands has claimed responsibility for the attack on General Miguel Alfredo Maza Marquez, director of the Administrative Department of Security (DAS), and the murder of Patriotic Union (UP) leader Jose Antequera.

According to a letter addressed to Attorney General Alfonso Gomez Mendez, the Rosa Helena Valiente Vargas Command, a group comprised of highly trained individuals, carried out the attack at the El Dorado International Airport on 3 March during which Jose Antequera was killed and Liberal Party candidate Ernesto Samper seriously wounded.

The same letter also contains threats against M-19 [19 April Movement] spokesmen Carlos Pizarro Leongomez, Bernardo Jaramillo Ossa, Miguel Alfredo Maza Marquez, Nacim Yanine Diaz, Alberto Santofimio Botero, Alvaro Leiva Duran, Horacio Serpa Uribe, and Virgilio Barco Vargas, as well as against the Peace Village, the M-19 camp, and the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] casa verde [FARC headquarters].

The letter, signed by "Camilo," concludes by announcing that after these operations have been carried out, they will continue their struggle to purge the state's security forces "that take advantage of violence to commit the most despicable and barbaric actions for their own benefit."

It was learned that the letter addressed to Gomez Mendez is dated 11 April 1989 and was filed at the Attorney General's Office under the number 04-5596 at 10:44 on 16 April.

Meanwhile, the Attorney General's Office has announced that it will conduct an investigation into the anonymous letter sent to the attorney general by the so-called Green Commands in which the group claims responsibility for the operation that claimed the life of UP leader Jose Antequera.

The letter does not specify the location where these alleged criminal operations will take place.

Meanwhile, the Attorney General's Office and state security organizations have decided to investigate this matter to determine where the letter came from.

Peru

Envoy to Panama Recalled for 'Routine' Talks

PY1406040489 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Guillermo Larco Cox today said that it is unnecessary and insulting to request foreign observers for the actions of a government that has been open to all national and foreign media.

Larco Cox also commented on the talks he held with Peruvian Ambassador to Panama Mario Castro Arenas.

[Begin recording] [Passage omitted] [Reporter] There has been speculation in the last few days that our ambassador to Panama was recalled by the Foreign Ministry. What can you tell us about it?

[Larco] Yes, the ambassador was recalled by the Foreign Ministry. There is nothing dramatic or shocking to this news. He came only to discuss routine matters related to the decisions made at the highest level, at the OAS in this case, in coordination with various foreign ministers, and it is important to have him well-informed here. [end recording]

NCO's Arrested for Arms Sales to Terrorists

PY1406133689 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2149 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Lima, 13 Jun (EFE)—Interior Ministry sources in Lima reported today that two noncommissioned officers from the Peruvian Air Force (FAP)—one from the Army Aviation Force—and four civilians have been identified as presumed suppliers of weapons to terrorist groups.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, told EFE that the police intelligence service has detained a military officer and a civilian. The others managed to escape and are now being sought in the central mountain region and in some areas of the forest region.

"It has not yet been possible to establish whether the presumed suppliers provided weapons to the Maoist Shining Path group or to the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA)," the sources stated.

Members of the Antiterrorist Directorate (DIRCOTE) recently seized four helicopter machineguns and three "FAL" automatic rifles from the house of a FAP noncommissioned officer who, when arrested, admitted that these weapons were destined for terrorists.

The DIRCOTE later arrested Hector Rodriguez, a presumed liaison between the military officers and purchasers in Huancayo, an Andean province 302 km east of Lima.

The ministry sources added that the noncommissioned officer, whose surname is Marsano, could not be interrogated thoroughly because he was placed at the disposal of the FAP at the request of the FAP High Command.

The sources added that the investigations are focusing on how the suspected officers managed to steal the weapons from the Air Force helicopters and from the Army Aviation Force. The investigations also seek to find out whether other people are involved in this activity.

The regular forces have occasionally recovered war materiel from the guerrillas. These weapons were initially thought to have been stolen from murdered officers, but the first investigations now show that they were stolen from military institutions, the sources added.

Since 1980, political violence in Peru has caused the deaths of at least 15,000 people and property damage estimated at $13 billion, according to a report released by Peruvian Vice President Luis Alberto Sanchez.

Minister Reveals Details of Terrorist Activity

PY1506025089 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 7 Jun 89 p 3

[Text] Interior Minister Agustin Mantilla yesterday "exposed" the subversive movements Shining Path and MRTA [Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement] before Congress and downplayed the importance of the Rodrigo Franco Command. Mantilla admitted that terrorism is a latent danger but asserted that it "will not defeat the country." We will defeat it with legal and constitutional methods! Mantilla said.

Mantilla made a surprising and detailed report on the modus operandi and areas of influence of the two subversive organizations. He admitted the Shining Path's greater reach and strength and the MRTA's lower rate of criminal activity.

The interior minister submitted to Congress a detailed report on subversion. He said the MRTA has its center of operations in Sisa [Northern San Martin Department], where it was created. Mantilla said the MRTA operates around Moyobamba, Rioja, Saposoa, Bellavista, and thereabouts with a 60-man column.

The minister said a second column of 60 men operates in the vicinity of Tarapoto and Yurimaguas, and another 50 or 60 men operate northwest of Tocache, but he explained that they move from zone to zone frequently. Mantilla said two 100-man columns operate near Aguaytia and Pucallpa in Ucayali Department. Mantilla also said that the Shining Path had infiltrated Pucallpa as well.

Mantilla added that the MRTA also operates with three columns of 50 to 60 men in Junin Department.

Regarding the Shining Path, Mantilla said the subversives move with impunity in the hills of Ayacucho, Apurimac, Huancavelica, Junin, and Pasco Departments. They also operate in the wooded areas of Tocache, Leoncio Prado, Tingo Maria, Pachitea, Aguaytia, Coronel Portillo, Oxapampa, Satipo, and thereabouts.

Mantilla said that the Shining Path "overwhelmingly controls" Tocache and Mariscal Caceres Provinces with 400 murderous men. Another 300 men operate in Leoncio Prado and yet another 300 operate in Ucayali. In the central Andean hills, the Shining Path operates on four fronts, including the new fronts of Huancayo and Pasco. Between 60 and 70 subversives operate on the left bank of the Apurimac River; 20 to 30 men, near Huamanga; 30 men, around Cangallo, Vilcashuaman, and Victor Fajardo; 20 or 30 men, near Andahuaylas; 20 men, near Santiago de Chuco; and 20 to 30 men, in Ancash Department. The Shining Path also operates in Puno Department (particularly near Melgar and Azangaro).

Mantilla said the Rodrigo Franco Command was born with the murder of Attorney Manuel Febres. The minister said the Command was also responsible for other murders, 28 bomb attacks, and death threats through mail, posters, graffiti, and telephone calls.

Mantilla said the Command has issued messages with different texts, styles, slogans, terms, and threats in different regions. The minister said the conclusion is that the Command does not have a nationwide organization, but it mobilizes assassins and criminals who place bombs. They have attacked government and opposition authorities and politicians in a way lacking logic and coherence, Mantilla concluded.

Shining Path Newspaper Building Attacked

PY1206194089 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1351 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] Lima, 12 Jun (EFE)—Early this morning unidentified individuals in a passing car threw explosives at a building housing the offices of the newspaper EL DIARIO.

EL DIARIO is considered the newspaper of the Maoist Shining Path organization.

The explosives damaged the three-story building that houses the offices of the newspaper, which is now published only once a week. The building is located on Amazonas Street, Magdalena District.

According to police sources, several people who were sleeping in the building escaped the attack uninjured.

The attack occurred at 0230 (0730 GMT).

Shining Path Command Kills Supe Mayor
PY1306034889 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2344 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] A national congressman has reported that a command of alleged Shining Path terrorists today killed the mayor of the township of Supe, north of Lima Department.

Paul Caro Gamarra, Lima Department representative, said that Supe Mayor Edgardo Reyes Bolivar was riddled with bullets by a group of individuals near the Plaza de Armas as he left City Hall for his home.

Caro said that information received from Supe, a seaside district of the Lima Province of Barranca, indicates that police have killed a woman allegedly involved in Reyes' murder and have arrested a suspect.

Caro said that Reyes had received letters from Shining Path terrorists which contained death threats. He added that a cell of the pro-Maoist Shining Path terrorists, which bombed several public buildings some weeks ago, are carrying out terrorist activities in Barranca Province.

A television program reported 1 week ago that a Shining Path command recently attacked the districts of Huacho, Huaral, Barranca, Capital Provincial, Pativilca, and the area of the Lima Department known as "Norte Chile," in which Supe is located.

Reyes was killed 4 days after a Shining Path "annihilation command" murdered Aucayacu Mayor Cesar Augusto Zapata. Guerrillas and drug traffickers are carrying out intense activity in Aucayacu, a jungle township located in Huanuco Department, northeast of Lima.

To date this month, political violence in Peru has caused 122 deaths, and approximately 14,000 people have died since Shining Path terrorists began the armed struggle 9 years ago.

Government Announces Minimum Salary Increase
PY1506030689 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 15 Jun 89

[Excerpt] President Alan Garcia today announced a salary increase. The minimum salary has been increased from 84,000 to 108,000 intis. The nonunion workers of the private sector will get a 28-percent salary increase as of 1 June 1989. A decree will also be signed to order the Peruvian Social Security Institute to grant pension increases to retired people and to those without jobs.

After meeting with the mayor of Lima, President Garcia expressed his concern over the content of the draft rent law because it can affect hundreds of thousands of middle class families. The draft law allows rent to be determined by market forces. Garcia indicated that he had not yet received the law for its promulgation and that after he gets it, he will have 15 days to consider it. [passage omitted]

Uruguay

President Sanguinetti To Visit Portugal, France
PY1406210289 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1502 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Montevideo, 14 Jun (TELAM-DPA)—It has been reported in Montevideo that Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti will travel to Portugal on 9 July for a 2-day official visit.

Sanguinetti will then visit Paris at the invitation of French President Francois Mitterrand to participate in the celebrations of the French Revolution bicentennial.

Sanguinetti is scheduled to return to Uruguay on 15 July.

Economy Minister Comments on Japanese Loan
PY1406032689 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Today President Julio Maria Sanguinetti met with Japanese Ambassador Kinnosuke Hirooka, who was accompanied by Economy and Finance Minister Ricardo Zerbino and Japanese aides.

Ambassador Hirooka came to greet President Sanguineti and to talk about issues of mutual interest. With Minister Zerbino, Hirooka signed several documents related to a Japanese loan through which Japan will provide resources for several development projects. After the meeting, Minister Zerbino talked with reporters accredited to Government House to explain the Japanese loan:

[Begin Zerbino recording] The credit involves several projects, such as the electrification of rural areas in nine departments: Soriano, Durazno, Rio Negro, Tacuarembo, Cerro Largo, Colonia and others. There is also a road program involving road machinery and road maintenance equipment. This is in addition to the World Bank loan for road construction equipment. The loan will also be used to improve the railroad system. [passage omitted]

The loan is 7.163 billion yen, which is about $48 million at the current exchange rate. [passage omitted] [end recording]

New Political Group Created From Broad Front

PY0906173089 Montevideo BUSQUEDA in Spanish 1 Jun 89 p 12

[Excerpts] Professing a near mystical respect for "the grass roots" (the typical "grass-roots policy") and supporting the Broad Front (FA) coalition, yet hypercritical and distrustful of the leadership's maneuvering, backroom dealings, "apparatuses," and hegemonic claims, and being pursuers of the "spirit of the old trend," the People's Participation Movement [Movimiento de Participation Popular] (MPP) has been established. It has held its first rally, and it is preparing to elect a single directorate.

The MPP includes radical left political organizations such as the MLN-Tupamaros [National Liberation Movement-Tupamaros faction], the People's Victory Party (PVP), the Trotskyist PST [expansion unknown], the Uruguayan Revolutionary Movement (MRO), and independent citizens such as Helios Sarthou, Marcos Abelenda, Carlos Maria Gutierrez, Daniel Olesker, Major Tomas Cirio, retired, Mabel Lolo, and Dadh Sfeir.

The MPP Communique No 1 says that "we are convinced that the FA is the appropriate political tool to promote great transformations." However, the communique stresses the MPP's "concern" with the "growing deterioration of the principles and basic objectives of the FA."

The MPP communique adds: "The priority task will be to mobilize the FA so that it will meet its goals, resuming the spirit of the old trend in order to restore the internal balance and rescue it from unproductive leadership controversies." [passage omitted]

One of the most outstanding MPP "independents" has told BUSQUEDA that "we strongly support the grass-roots policy, and we are now reviewing all this at coordinating meetings of the grass-roots groups—which total about 40—that are held weekly." This is the context of the movement's "platform" and other basic political documents, he added. [passage omitted]

A Full Penarol Sports Stadium

In a full Penarol Sports Stadium with a mixed attendance, the MPP made its public debut. MLN-Tupamaros founder Raul Sendic was especially mentioned. There were six speakers and a long artistic show (Calcagno, Trochon, Bonaldi, Ruben Olivera, Falta y Resto).

The speakers were Lucia Gomensoro for the grass-roots groups; Luis Sanguinet (POR) [Revolutionary Workers Party]; Mario Rossi (MRO); Hugo Cores (PVP); Eleuterio Fernandez Huidobro (MLN-T); and Helios Sarthou, a former IDI [Independent Democratic Left] leader who has become an "independent."

Also present were the members of the FA directorate Francisco Rodriguez Camuso, Arturo Balinas, Alba Roballo, Guillermo Chifflet, and Carlos Baraibar, the political secretary of Liber Seregni (who did not attend, nor send a message). Several political groups and even a "Movement for the Creation of the Party of the Marxist-Leninist Proletariat" [Movimiento por la Constitucion del Partido del Proletariado Marxista-Leninista]. [passage omitted]

The speaker all reasserted the need for the FA to recover "its clear anti-imperialist and opposition profile" in order to advance "toward actually participating in a democratic, socialist society." [passage omitted]

Youth Groups To Attend North Korea Festival

PY1006041489 Montevideo LA HORA in Spanish 3 Jun 89 p 7

[Excerpt] A delegation of 50 Uruguayan youths will travel to Pyongyang, capital of North Korea, in the next few days to attend the 13th Youth and Student Festival.

The organizations that participated in the national preparatory committee assigned the number of participants in the delegation in the following way: 8 for the PC-CNT [Interunion Workers Plenum]; 7 for the student movement, made up of 4 for the FEUU [Uruguayan University Students Federation], 2 for the FES [High School Students Federation], 1 for the CGEUTU [expansion unknown]; 1 for the Juvenile Pastoral Mission; 4 for PGP [expansion unknown]; 15 for the Colorado Party; and 15 for the Broad Front, made up of 2 for the UJU [expansion unknown], 2 for the JSU [expansion unknown], 2 for the IDI [expansion unknown], 2 for the 26 March organization, 2 for the PVP [People's Victory Party], 2 for the CP [expansion unknown], 2 for the MLN [National Liberation Movement-Tupamaros Faction], and Cecilia Prato as cultural delegate.

The National Party withdrew from the preparatory committee, disagreeing with the criteria of assigning the same number of delegates to the Broad Front and the two traditional parties (National and Colorado). The National Party stated that the delegation "is not representative." [passage omitted]

Venezuela

More on Police Strike, Student Disturbances

PA1406030789 Paris AFP in Spanish 2305 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Caracas, 13 Jun (AFP)—A group of students today burned two buses and looted two supply trucks during a demonstration in the southeastern sector of Caracas. Radio Rumbos, a Caracas radio station, reported that the students staged their demonstrations while the Metropolitan Police (PM) strike continues unresolved.

The PM is usually responsible for handling disturbances, but in light of the strike, the Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services (DISIP) was sent in to disperse the demonstrators with tear gas and birdshot.

There were no reports of persons being injured or arrested.

The PM began its strike on Thursday. They are demanding an amendment to the law that recognizes policework as a career and that the PM be headed by one of its own members, not by a member of the militarized National Guard.

The main PM precincts were occupied early Saturday morning by the National Guard. Approximately 30 officers were arrested, but the policemen did not suspend the strike. They reaffirmed their decision to continue with the strike and today they marched on Congress to charge "abuses" by the military.

Congress approved, by a majority, the creation of a commission to investigate alleged human rights violations at all police precincts and hospitals.

197 Police Cadets Resign

PA1406174389 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1432 GMT 14 Jun 89

[Text] Caracas, 14 Jun (DPA)—It has been officially announced in Caracas that 197 students of the Metropolitan Police Academy University Institute submitted their massive resignations. Meanwile, the 19 police officers who had been arrested were released.

According to National Guard (GN) Commander Gonzalo Bajares Colmenares, metropolitan policemen continue to return to their jobs and the irregular situation seems to be drawing to an end.

In their resignation letter, read before the Venezuelan Congress with a loudspeaker, the cadets stated that "the possibilities for improvement and progress have been undermined and [words indistinct] selfish interests." In the letter, the cadets stated that they disagree with placing the Metropolitan Police (PM) under the command of the GN instead of under the command of the PM's officers.

In addition, 19 PM officers who were arrested early in the morning on 10 June when military forces occupied the PM quarters were released by order of Judge Frank Vecchionace, although the officers' legal situation remains unclear.

The PM conflict, which gradually developed during the last few months, broke out on 8 June when 8,000 policemen refused to work to protest the dismissal of 9 of their officers. The military occupation took place on 10 June and resulted in several injured persons on both sides.

A Chamber of Deputies commission announced it will promote the issuance of a legislative statement condemning the government's order to occupy the police quarters by force.

Today the situation was slowly returning to normal. The PM is waiting for a PM reconstruction plan that is being drafted by a special commission appointed by the government.

Police Agree To Lift Strike

PA1506050289 Caracas Venezolana de Television Canal 8 in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Jun 89

[Text] PM officers held a meeting attended by their commander to analyze the factors that gave rise to the police strike.

At first, personnel ranging from commissioners to inspectors asked for appointments to command posts. In this regard, General Gonzalo Bajares Colmenares explained that the first problems to be solved would be socioeconomic problems of lower-ranking personnel and then incentives would be granted in other positions that will accrue to the benefit of PM.

The police commander did not rule out the reinstatement of the nine officers who were dismissed as a result of the attitude they assumed when presenting demands. However, it will take at least a month to adopt the decision because the case must first be studied, according to the rules and regulations.

[Begin recording] [Bejares] Those who have been fired have the right of appeal, which they must exercise through an administrative proceeding. There is an administrative proceeding and the laws cannot be violated.

[Reporter] Will this be a first offense-level remedy?

[Bejares] This appeal is filed before the general police commander and then action is taken before the regional government. However, the deadlines cannot be violated.

[Reporter] What deadlines?

[Bejares] They are 15 days, and then 15 days for reconsideration. Then the case is sent to the next higher level. [end recording]

Commissioner (Manuel Rondon) agreed with the points raised at the meeting and immediately sent the police out into the streets to protect the citizens.

[Begin recording] [(Rondon)] We are convinced that the general will indeed try to find a solution to our problem. [end recording]

The first thing the police did when they returned to the streets was to try to clamp down on the hooded people who have caused the disturbances at the Central University of Venezuela, where they burned a truck carrying powdered gelatin.

Following their meeting with PM officials and Gen Bajares, all agreed to return to work, which they had suspended over the past several weeks. The police are now back on the streets.